

## AAEA opposes destruction of Iraqi plants

TUNIS (R) — The Arab Atomic Energy Agency (AAEA) said Friday Iraq's nuclear power plants should not be destroyed because they were part of the Arab national scientific heritage. The Tunis-based agency said in a statement the installations should be controlled either by the International Atomic Energy Agency or another Arab country. The AAEA said it had asked the Arab League to take the necessary measures to see that Iraqi nuclear power installations were not destroyed "as they are a part of the (Arab) national scientific heritage." It said Iraqi plants which were not destroyed in the Gulf war could be entrusted to any Arab country approved by the United Nations Security Council. Otherwise, the plants should be controlled by the International Atomic Energy Agency. A new United Nations team arrived in Baghdad Friday to inspect Iraqi nuclear installations and seek proof about the country's nuclear weapons programme (See story below). The AAEA said the small quantities of uranium and plutonium produced by Iraq "are far from what is needed to manufacture atomic weapons."

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## Crown Prince to visit Morocco

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will leave Amman for Morocco Saturday on a several-day working visit during which he will meet King Hassan II, Morocco's crown prince and senior Moroccan official. Prince Hassan will also take part in the meetings of the Academy of the Moroccan Kingdom and is expected to deliver an address at the meetings. Prince Hassan is a member of the Academy of the Moroccan Kingdom.

## UNHCR says north Iraq calmer

GENEVA (R) — Northern Iraq appears calmer after fighting between Kurdish rebels and the Iraqi army earlier this week, the United Nations said Friday. A spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said 70 lorries carrying supplies to help prepare refugees for the winter crossed into northern Iraq from Turkey on Thursday with no problem. "This is to be taken as an indication that things are calmer," spokeswoman Sylvana Foa told a news briefing. Kurdish and Iraqi army representatives had signed a ceasefire on Tuesday afternoon after days of bloody clashes in the area. Ms. Foa said that if things stayed calm, the U.N. agency hoped to move 70 to 100 truckloads of building materials into northern Iraq from Turkey each day. As part of its plan to draw hundreds of thousands of refugees back from Turkey and Iran, the United Nations has committed itself to looking after returnees.

## Egyptian oil minister arrives in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Egyptian Oil and Mineral Wealth Minister Hamdi Al-Banbi arrived in Kuwait Friday to seek business cooperation with the emirate, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said. Mr. Banbi's visit follows an agreement between the two countries on Egyptian participation in rebuilding Kuwait. Egypt contributed troops to a U.S.-led military alliance which freed Kuwait from Iraqi occupation in February.

## Norway's chief of intelligence resigns over Mossad scandal

OSLO (R) — Norway's chief of intelligence resigned Friday after coming under sharp criticism for allowing Israeli Mossad agents to question Palestinian asylum seekers. "The criticism has been taken seriously... and (I) have probably done what is natural for someone in a leading position. One has to take the responsibility that goes with the job," chief of intelligence Svein Urdal told national radio NRK. The Palestinians were not informed that they were being examined by both Norwegian and Israeli intelligence. Norway's Justice Minister, Kari Gjesteby, has described the practice as "unfortunate," partly because Norwegian police were unable to follow the conversation, which was in Arabic. She has said this practice must stop.

## General Assembly demands reversal of Haiti coup

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. General Assembly Friday adopted by consensus a resolution condemning the coup in Haiti and calling for the restoration of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The resolution, passed without a vote, also said that any government resulting from the military coup that overthrew Aristide on Sept. 30 would be unacceptable to the assembly's 166 member states.

## U.S. agents to testify in Rashid case

KORYDALLOS, Greece (AP) — A court Friday ruled that U.S. federal agents can testify against a Palestinian on trial for the 1982 bombing of a Pan Am jetliner. Court President Christos Anastopoulos also overruled another defence objection to any testimony by Adnan Awad, a key prosecution witness in the trial of Mohammad Rashid.

## Baker faces new snags ahead of latest mission

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Secretary of State James Baker faced new obstacles to convening a historic Arab-Israeli conference as he prepared to embark this weekend on his eighth Middle East peace mission.

Mr. Baker, who leaves for Egypt late on Saturday and will then visit Jordan, Syria and Israel, still has to secure Palestinian agreement to attend the conference which he is determined to call into session before Oct. 31.

He is intensely aware that as he draws agonisingly close to what would be a landmark achievement, the parties to the peace conference are becoming more nervous while opponents of the process are redoubling their efforts to derail it.

"As we get closer and closer to the end of October, I think you will see a tendency on the part of rejectionists and extremists across the region to take actions designed to disrupt the possibilities for peace," Mr. Baker said Thursday.

As if to prove him correct, a Palestinian killed two Israeli soldiers on Friday and injured 11 by crashing a truck into people waiting at a bus stop.

Mr. Baker referred to intelligence reports of possible extremist operations, but his political

difficulties also appeared to be mounting. Officials, reacting to a New York Times report, disclosed that Syria told the United States it might not take part in negotiations with Israel and other Middle East states on regional issues like arms control, sharing water resources, economic development and refugees.

Mr. Baker and his aides had kept this secret for almost a month. Israel attaches great importance to the regional talks, which are supposed to follow closely after the peace conference, because they would symbolise its acceptance as a legitimate state in the region.

Israel had already rocked the boat, sending warplanes on reconnaissance flights over Iraq and allowing a group of armed ultra-nationalist settlers to occupy a home in Arab East Jerusalem.

And Palestinians were still discussing with Mr. Baker over the text of a letter of assurance on the way the peace negotiations would be conducted.

Four Palestinians from the occupied territories spent over four hours with Mr. Baker Thursday and were due to return for more talks with lower level officials on Friday.

But they said they were still not ready to nominate Palestinians to a joint delegation with Jordan that would represent them at the peace conference.

Mr. Baker himself said this was the most important remaining problem in his path. He hopes to settle it while in the region next week.

But Mr. Baker himself is unlikely to issue invitations to the peace conference. That honour is being reserved for President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev who are preparing to put their personal prestige behind the event in an effort to reduce its chances of failure.

Jerusalem is still the main issue blocking agreement on Palestinian representation at the Middle East peace conference, one of the Palestinian negotiators meeting with the secretary of state in Washington said Friday.

Dr. Zakariya Al Agha, in an early interview by telephone from Washington with London-based newsletter Mideast Mirror, was also quoted as saying the Palestinian side remained unsatisfied with the U.S. stance on the issues of Israeli settlements and self-determination.

The Americans were not prepared "to publicly recognise the Palestinians' right to self-determination... because they view it as meaning an independent Palestinian state which they don't support," he said.

Faisal Hussein, another Palestinian envoy, said Tuesday: "We came

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## Palestinian kills 2 Israeli soldiers in apparent revenge for massacre

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian killed two Israeli soldiers by stamming a stolen truck into a bus queue Friday and later told police he was avenging the deaths of 18 Arabs at Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif a year ago.

Eleven soldiers were injured in the bus-stop attack, several of them seriously. Police said that the driver was arrested and that he acted on "nationalist grounds."

Tel Aviv police confirmed radio reports that the driver confessed he wanted to avenge the Jerusalem killings of last year. Friday's incident came three days after Palestinian marked the first anniversary of the massacre by Israeli police.

The incident set off a series of revenge attacks that have taken the lives of 19 Israelis and two foreign tourists. Eight Palestinians also have been killed, some during the attacks.

Friday's incident also came at a time of heightened Arab-Israeli tension following the takeover Wednesday of a half-dozen houses in an Arab Jerusalem neighbourhood by Jewish settlers.

Rabbi Yerachmiel Boyer, mayor of the Bnei Brak suburb of Tel Aviv, said he would push for banning Palestinians from entering the city.

The incident occurred about 6:50 a.m. (0450GMT), and Israel Radio initially broadcast warnings to Tel Aviv motorists to avoid the area because of a "serious accident."

Police said the driver is 25 and from the village of Qibya near Ramallah in the occupied West Bank. The vehicle belonged to his employer, an Israeli from a farm village in central Israel, they said.

According to witnesses, the Palestinian drove the truck through a red light on a main road outside Tel Aviv. He avoided civilians gathered at a bus stop and then swerved into soldiers waiting to hitch rides.

"At first I thought the driver was going to stop to give us a ride," one of the injured soldiers told army radio from hospital.

"Then I could see he was going too fast, it was too late to stop," he said. "He drove right into us."

The road, a main route between Haifa and Tel Aviv, is used by Palestinians driving back to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. After previous attacks, crowds of Israelis have gathered to assault Palestinians returning from work.

As the sun set, a nearly six-hour blackout on news of the attack, police said they would protect Palestinians as they headed home for the Israeli Sabbath starting at sunset.

In an unrelated incident, settlers driving a fuel tanker through the West Bank city of Nablus went on a rampage, shooting, beating Arab vendors and smashing cars after they had apparently been hit by stones. A television crew said soldiers stood watching.

Several missile launcher pads and there was also confusion about whether or not all its Scud missiles used in Gulf war attacks on Israel and Saudi Arabia, had been destroyed.

The two new teams join a mission already working to destroy Iraq's chemical weapons. That team, which is 50-strong and the biggest to have visited Iraq, is working at Muthanna northwest of the capital where it is trying to identify what chemical agents Iraq had stored. A letter from Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Hassan Khudayer to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the Security Council assailed U.S. President George Bush for trying to remove President Saddam Hussein from power.



Jewish settlers who have occupied a house in Arab East Jerusalem overlook a wall with Arabic-written Palestinian national slogans and a sketch of the Palestinian flag as two Arab children pass by

## Jerusalem Palestinians fear for future amid settlers' onslaught

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Arab East Jerusalem Palestinians, increasingly concerned about their future, looked on as Jews who had seized houses in their midst settled down Friday for a long-term stay.

"Everybody is afraid and worried about the future... the threat of creeping settlement," said Jamil Ahmad Al Abbasi, 45. Border police guarded a stone house in East Jerusalem's Silwan neighbourhood occupied by settlers and right-wing members of parliament.

Israeli civilians wearing skull-caps and carrying Uzi sub-machineguns passed through the police lines.

Settlers seized eight houses Wednesday ahead of next week's eighth Middle East peace mission by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. On past visits Mr. Baker was twice greeted by new settlements which he termed a major obstacle to peace.

Police evicted the settlers from all but one of the eight houses pending a legal decision on the fate of other properties they claim to own. The settlers carried beds and a refrigerator into the remaining house in preparation for a long stay.

"We have not had any sleep since they moved in. Every night they start shooting to show us they have guns," said middle-

aged Silwan resident Abu Abed, pointing to bullet holes in nearby Arab houses. "It looks like they are preparing to take over more houses, possibly as many as 20 more."

The attorney general decided on Thursday to delay a decision on the Silwan houses until after Mr. Baker's visit.

The dispute has thrown the spotlight on the status of the Holy City, a key obstacle for Israel in proposed peace talks.

Israel, which wants all of Jerusalem as its "capital," has refused even to discuss the city at peace talks. Palestinians see their half of the city as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

## Peace Now to challenge settlements in court

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's Peace Now movement announced Friday it will file a suit with the supreme court to try to block further Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A statement issued by the group, the Jewish state's biggest peace lobby, said the case will challenge "the legality of the entire enterprise of Jewish settlement" in the occupied territories.

The suit will contend the settlements are an attempt to annex the occupied lands in violation of international law; Peace Now said.

Its statement follows repeated urging by the United States that Israel stop building new settlements to help create a good atmosphere for an Arab-Israeli peace conference that the U.S. and the Soviet Union have called for later this month.

The suit, to be filed Sunday, will name the government of Israel, the housing ministry, the Israeli military government in the occupied territories, the quasi-government Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organisation, the statement said. All are involved in settlement activities.

In recent months, Israel has launched a crash housing programme to have more Jews to the occupied territories. Liberal legislators and peace activists contend this could double the number of Jewish settlers there by 1992 and undercut the U.S.-backed peace process.

Peace Now said its suit will

charge that the settlements are contrary to international law, the Fourth Hague Convention of 1907 on the Rules of War, local laws existing prior to the occupation and the rules of the Israeli military government.

"According to the fundamental norm of international law, an occupying state does not gain ownership over the conquered territory," the statement said. "Rather, it is considered a trustee."

It said its petition would argue that Israeli settlements were changing the demography, land ownership and use of natural resources in the occupied territories and depriving Palestinians of civil and political rights.

"The massive nature and pace of current government settlement activity has created a new reality," the petition says. "It is clear that the settlements are intended to be permanent and serve as the vehicle of annexation."

Terming this a "gross violation" of international law, the group said it will seek a temporary injunction against new settlements and expansion of existing ones.

Peace Now is a loose coalition best known for mobilising opposition to Israel's 1982 war in Lebanon.

## King to address national congress today

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein is expected to address a national congress at the Palace of Culture Saturday, outlining Jordanian position and approach to the Middle East peace process.

The King, who is recovering from a cold which forced the postponement of the congress from Thursday, is expected to deal in his speech with Jordan's efforts over the past 25 years to solve the Palestinian problem and its commitment to a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict based on the exchange of land for peace.

In a Radio Jordan call-in programme on Thursday, the King voiced thanks and appreciation for the Jordanian citizens for their concern over his health and said he was looking forward to addressing the nation through today's congress.

The congress is expected to be attended by 2,500 elected Jordanians from all walks of life.

The King received a telephone call Thursday from Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, who enquired about the King's health and wished him speedy recovery. King Hussein thanked President Arafat and wished him and the Palestinian people all the best.

The King's personal doctor, Samir Farraj, said that His Majesty was in good health and that he was having a two-day rest as a result of the cold he had.

## Jordan gets JD 14 million French loan

By Fahed Al Faneh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — France has extended to Jordan a soft loan worth 120 million francs (JD 14.16) million, according to an agreement worked out between Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) officials and a visiting French delegation.

The loan, to be repaid over 17 years, will carry a one per cent interest rate per annum, according to the agreement. The loan will have a seven and a half years grace period.

Jordan will use the loan to finance its imports from France, an arrangement that has been used in the past. Last year, France extended Jordan a similar loan in the amount of 100 million francs. That loan was for 15 years at 1.5 per cent interest rate per annum.

An agreement covering the new loan was concluded last week at the Central Bank of Jordan between a visiting French delegation and a Jordanian delegation led by Dr. Michel Marto, deputy governor of the Central Bank.

AMMAN — By not defying a ban on a rally scheduled to be held Friday, the Muslim Brotherhood has averted a head-on clash with the government of Prime Minister Taher Massi, but the Islamic movement is determined to pursue its campaign through "constitutional means" against Jordanian participation in the proposed Middle East peace conference.

A senior Brotherhood official, however, said that the movement does not believe that its opposition will prevent Jordan from going to the peace conference.

"We believe that the government will go to the peace conference, but it will do that amid strong opposition," the Brotherhood's parliamentary spokesman, Ahmed Qteish Al Azaidh, told the Jordan Times Thursday.

Mr. Azaidh disagreed that the Brotherhood's strong opposition to the peace process would weaken Jordan's negotiating position at the conference. "I believe that it is quite to the contrary. The presence of a strong opposition can actually boost the Jordanian negotiating position at the talks," he said.

Mr. Azaidh, a member of the Lower House of Parliament, said that the movement decided to cancel Friday's public rally so that a confrontation with the government and the security forces could be avoided. He said that the movement took its decision on Wednesday, hours after the government refused to license the rally.

"We do not want a confrontation with the government or the security forces," Mr. Azaidh said.

But Mr. Azaidh pledged that the movement will pursue its efforts to block Jordan's participation in the proposed peace conference "through all the democratic means available."

"We still oppose the government's policies and we shall continue to do so through democratic and constitutional means," he said.

Mr. Azaidh, however, implied that the movement will accept a parliamentary vote on the issue even though it will not condone talks with Israel.

He was not clear if the movement will refrain from organising rallies in the future but stressed that the Brotherhood was not going to take a step that would undermine the country's stability.

The rally was originally organised to commemorate a massacre committed by Israeli soldiers in Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem last year. The rally was expected to turn into a protest against Jordanian and Palestinian participation in the peace conference.

A government source said that the rally was banned because it was viewed as a challenge to His Majesty King Hussein's planned, but later postponed, speech at a national congress Thursday.

"They (the Brotherhood) stepped overboard. Their action would have been a threat to stability and national security," said the government source.

The source said that the Brotherhood had originally planned to hold its public rally Thursday so that it would look as a counter to the planned national congress.

country's security and stability. We did not want a showdown. We did not want to see one drop of blood shed," Mr. Azaidh said.

Political analysts believe that the postponement of the national congress — it will convene on Saturday — due to His Majesty's minor health problem and the Brotherhood calling off the rally had avoided the country's potential head-on collision between the movement and the government.

"We think that the government is very nervous so we decided not to make the rally a point of conflict," said Mr. Azaidh, who stressed that the movement took its decision before the Royal Court announced the postponement of the national congress.

The political battle between the cabinet and the movement started last June when the Brotherhood was excluded from the government of Mr. Maari. In July the movement withheld its vote of confidence in the cabinet.

Mr. Maari relied on a broad alliance with the leftists and liberals to form his cabinet.

Since the beginning of the latest American effort for a Middle East peace conference, the Brotherhood accused the cabinet of paving the way for Jordanian participation in the proposed meeting and voiced vehement opposition to it.

The tension increased immediately following the Palestine National Council's (PNC) decision to authorise Palestinian involvement, theoretically paving the way for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

As prospects for the convening of the peace conference became stronger, parliament members who are against peace talks with Israel stepped up their opposition.

Consequently, four ministers resigned.

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## Rafsanjani condemns Israeli overflights

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's President Hashemi Rafsanjani on Friday criticised Arab countries for failing to respond militarily to Israeli surveillance flights over their territories.

Speaking in a prayer sermon in Tehran Mr. Rafsanjani also denounced Jewish settlers who took over six homes in Arab East Jerusalem earlier this week. He blamed Israel, and the United States for supporting the Jewish state, for the incident.

Tehran Radio, monitored here, quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying that "every Muslim will keep such incidents in his heart for a suitable day, when he will respond to the United States and Israel."

He said the United States was making a "historic mistake" by trying to convene an Arab-Israeli peace conference. He said Washington's intentions were to get concessions for Israel.

"I think the United States is making a basic and strategic mistake if it tries to get concessions for Israel through such things."

"If the United States thinks the Middle East will be resolved if it makes peace in Israel."

"If five or 10 countries sign an accord it will not be acceptable to 1.2 billion Muslims in the world," the radio quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying.

He said the Israeli surveillance flights were a "bitter incident."

Israel is "telling the people, Arabs, Muslims and the world, that it is so intransigent that it does not need peace."

"It is telling the Arabs, 'we can fly our planes wherever we like,'" Mr. Rafsanjani said.

He added that "we did not see a suitable reaction" to the incident.

"They (the Arab countries)



Hashemi Rafsanjani

could not fire even a single missile.

"This is the worst humiliating incident, especially on the eve of the so-called Middle East peace conference."

The Arab League Thursday denounced overflights by Israeli warplanes of Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia and urged United Nations action to prevent a recurrence.

The U.N. Security Council should "deter Israel from such aggressive behaviour," the 21-member League's Cairo-based secretariat said in a statement.

Iraq complained to the United Nations that Israel sent four F-15 warplanes into Iraqi airspace on Oct. 4. The Iraqi letter said the planes entered Iraqi airspace from Syria and flew over Saudi Arabia on the way home.

U.S. officials confirmed the overflights and said Washington made representations to Israel "at the highest levels." They said the United States warned that the Israeli action posed a danger both to Middle East peace efforts and to U.N. efforts to dismantle Iraq's weapons of mass destruction after the Gulf war.

Israel did not confirm the overflights. But its defence minister, Moshe Arens, said they were justified because Iraq "may still have the capability of launching missiles against Israel's population centres."

U.S. efforts to convene a peace conference, earlier scheduled for sometime this month, have been vehemently censured by Iran.

## Turkish planes bomb Kurdish rebels in Iraq

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkish warplanes attacked Kurdish rebel bases inside northern Iraq Friday morning, Premier Mesut Yilmaz announced.

Mr. Yilmaz said eight planes struck rebel bases seven kilometres inside northern Iraq to retaliate for a cross-border raid by the guerrillas that killed 11 Turkish soldiers Monday.

The air raid marked the second time in two months that Turkish forces attacked guerrilla camps in northern Iraq.

Turkish warplanes and helicopters, in a massive operation, have been searching out and attacking guerrilla positions in near the Iraqi border in southeastern Turkey since Tuesday.

Mr. Yilmaz told a news conference that he approved the plan on Thursday for the air raid into Iraq. He said Turkish reconnaissance planes were still flying over the area to assess the damage.

The guerrillas of the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) have been fighting since 1984 to set up a separate Kurdish state in southeastern Turkey.

The rebels often infiltrate into Turkey from bases in northern Iraq.

On Monday, about 150 rebels crossed the Iraqi border and attacked an army outpost near the border, killing the 11 Turkish soldiers.

The governing Motherland Party is under fire from the press and the opposition parties for failing to halt PKK attacks. Opposition parties have used the issue against the government in their campaigns for the Oct. 20 general elections.

Another PKK attack that killed 10 soldiers in August triggered a week-long land and air operation 10 kilometres inside northern Iraq. The PKK still holds seven soldiers captured in its August raid as hostages.

The incursion in August was the largest military operation in Turkey ever launched against the PKK in northern Iraq. Turkey

has attacked PKK bases in northern Iraq at least three other times over the past seven years.

The PKK has killed 1,734 Turkish security personnel and civilians since 1984. Some 1,000 PKK guerrillas have also died in the clashes.

Ethnic Kurds make up about one-fifth of Turkey's population of 55 million.

Turkey attacked PKK bases in Iraq twice in the 1980s under a hot pursuit agreement with Baghdad that expired in 1989.

Without naming the group, Mr. Yilmaz Friday accused the PKK of stopping efforts to develop the impoverished, mainly Kurdish southeast.

"The reason for my hatred of the separatist bandits is not just that they kill innocents, but that they are preventing the development efforts of a neglected, backward region," he said.

Mr. Yilmaz, fighting for his political life in a general election nine days away, urged all parties to refrain from using the crisis in the southeast for election propaganda.

"I do not believe this problem can be solved in the very short term," he said. "It will remain on Turkey's agenda and will disturb the country for some time to come."

"But if we fight it with patience, continuity, consistency and unity, the bandits don't have a chance in a thousand," the leader of the Motherland Party declared.

More policemen shot dead

Two policemen were killed and another was wounded in an ambush in Istanbul early Friday, hours after three other policemen were shot dead in the city.

The semi-official Anatolian news agency said four gunmen opened fire on a patrolling police car in the Pendik suburb on the outskirts of the city Friday.

## Kuwait allows bidouns to return

ABDALLI, Kuwait (Agencies) — The last refugees left this aqualid camp on the Iraq-Kuwait border early Friday to return to their homes in Kuwait after being detained by Kuwaiti officials for months.

Humanitarian workers overseeing the return of the refugees with Kuwaiti officials said the operation to close the camp, which was set up in March, went smoothly.

They said the last bus load of refugees left the camp in the early morning hours.

Most of the 566 refugees were bidouns (stateless Arabs), who were detained by Kuwaiti authorities while crossing from Iraq into Kuwait after the liberation of the emirate.

They had gone to Iraq after the Gulf war began, to visit relatives, get medical treatment or look for missing family members.

When they tried to return to the emirate, they could not present Kuwaiti officials with proof they were residents and thus got stuck in the camp pending security checks to make sure they were not former collaborators with Iraqi forces.

The original refugee population totalled some 20,000 shortly after the Gulf war.

Iraqi Shiite Muslims previously among them have been moved to Saudi Arabia or Iran.

Thousands of bidouns have left Kuwait for Iraq, which also has a large bidoun population.

The rest of the 566 refugees are were Saudis, Somalis, Jordanians and Syrians whose identity cards had been confiscated by the Iraqis.

Twenty-three others left for Scandinavia after the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) established they qualified for refugee status.

Mohammad Fahd, head of the liaison office for international agencies at the Interior Ministry, said the refugees have been "cleared" and would be treated just like other bidouns living in Kuwait.

He said the government will provide housing for those families that had nowhere to live while the UNHCR would provide them with \$200 monthly.

Another liaison officer, Muslim Al Ghareeb, said the refugees were fingerprinted a week ago and their relatives sent for to make sure the refugees were residents of Kuwait.

The bidouns were taken back to their homes in 10 blue-and-white government buses.

Most of them were happy to leave the camp, where they lived in tented tents, wooden shacks or crudely built huts of corrugated iron.

Late Thursday, the refugees sat in the dark around piles of bundles and gas cylinders, waiting for their names to be called to get on the bus.

Mothers hushed their crying babies while other members of the family checked that nothing was forgotten.

Some of the older refugees voiced misgivings about their future status in Kuwait.

Since Kuwait's liberation Feb. 26, bidouns suspected of collaboration with Iraq have been put on trial and the government has made it clear it does not want to repatriate any who might be security risks.

For Kareem Kassem Al Oneizi, 21, the joy of returning home was tempered with apprehension and uncertainty about the future.

"Everybody's afraid of being treated as a stranger, as an outsider," he said. "As long as one is a bidoun he's always afraid."

Mr. Oneizi, who was detained while returning from a trip to Iraq where his brother was being held, said he did not know whether he would be accepted in school again.

"I hope the government will treat us well and provide us with all that's needed to lead a decent life," he added.

Humanitarian workers say the refugees should not worry.

"I had personal guarantees that they won't be abused or maltreated," said Dan Prewitt of the Red Cross.

Originally wandering nomads from the deserts of Arabia, the bidoun never received Kuwaiti citizenship because of the emirate's strict nationality laws. Some families have lived there for generations.

They are estimated to number between 100,000 and 250,000 but there is no reliable figure.

The bidoun say they have been systematically barred from returning to their jobs in Kuwait, which before the Gulf crisis employed thousands of them in the police and armed forces.

"I was in the Kuwaiti army. Now I don't know whether I will be allowed back to the army or not. If not then I will look for any job to feed my family. I am just happy for now that I am taking my family out of this desert," said Khalil Ibrahim.

Kuwait says it has in the last few weeks readmitted more than 1,000 bidouns to the army and police force after it was satisfied that they did not collaborate with the Iraqis.

It was still carrying out security checks on other bidouns.

But the majority of the stateless people remain without jobs, and with an uncertain future, in Kuwait.

## British legislators said to urge condemnation of Iran

AMMAN (J.T.) — One hundred and sixty four members of the British parliament have urged their government to submit a resolution to the United Nations General Assembly condemning human rights violations in Iran and supporting the Iranian rebel movement led by Massoud Rajavi, according to a press release by the main Iranian opposition movement, Mujahideen-e-Khalq.

In their letter to the British foreign secretary, 164 members of the Houses of Lords and Com-

mons and 23 members of the European Parliament expressed their concern at the continuing human rights violations in Iran and the harsh repression of Iranian women, the release said. The legislators also deplored the suppression of extensive anti-government demonstrations and protests, noting that disciplinary forces in Iran have shot and killed a number of people and arrested thousands, said the rebel statement, sent to the Jordan Times.

The parliamentarians noted the

increase in Tehran-sponsored terrorist assassinations against Iranian dissidents, and cited the administration's direct role in the assassination of Professor Kazeran Rajavi in Geneva, it said.

"Since the spread of fundamentalism in the Islamic World is an official policy of the religious dictatorship ruling Iran, peace and stability in this sensitive region obliges the international community to support the Iranian people in their struggle for democracy, embodied in the National Council of Resistance of

Iran led by Massoud Rajavi," the parliamentarians said, according to the press release.

The legislators called upon the British government to submit a resolution to the U.N. Third Committee which specifically condemns the increase in domestic executions and the Iranian government's alleged role in the assassination of Professor Kazeran Rajavi, and requests that the U.N. continue to monitor the situation of human rights in Iran, it added.

## S. African present at Gulf conference, seeks trade ties

MANAMA (AP) — For the first time ever, a South African official quietly emerged Wednesday at an Arab regional conference.

John Sunde, responsible for Middle East affairs at the South African Foreign Ministry, told the AP Dow Jones News Service during a Gulf banking conference hosted by Bahrain that changes in the apartheid system encouraged the Gulf states to review their long-standing ostracisation of his country.

Mr. Sunde said South Africa is seeking trade relations with the Gulf countries and has indications that direct oil purchases from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states may be possible soon.

But he said any change would have little effect on the pattern of South African energy imports since his country has been able to cover all its needs even under economic sanctions.

The diplomat noted that he was not on an official visit, but might start preliminary contacts about setting up a South African trade office in Bahrain or elsewhere in the region.

He said it was too early to talk about full diplomatic ties with the Gulf states.

"We want people to get used to seeing us around," Mr. Sunde said.

South African businessmen are keen to boost exports to the Gulf region as vital markets in Europe become more difficult with the integration of the European Community, Mr. Sunde said. He said South Africa is hoping to boost its exports of steel and food products to the region and also to participate in the expansion of regional industries such as the huge Saudi industrial complexes at Jubail and Yanbu.

## Government confirms German firms helped Iraqi build-up

BONN (AP) — A high-ranking government official told parliament Friday that German companies helped Iraq's chemical, nuclear and biological weapons programmes.

The opposition Social Democrats accused the government of failing to do enough to stop such exports.

During the Gulf war earlier this year, Germany had to defend itself against a round of allegations the country's export-oriented industries had provided support for Iraq's military build-up.

While many of those accusations are now in the hands of local prosecutors and often out of the public eye, the parliamentary state secretary in the economics ministry gave lawmakers an overall view on Friday.

Klaus Beckmann said that German companies, like those from other countries, helped Iraq's

military build-up and that the recent U.N. inspection trip would likely reveal more names.

"There is no reason to play down their (German firms') participation," State Secretary Beckmann said.

He said authorities would pass on further information from the U.N. team to local German prosecutors as soon as it is available.

His report drew a blistering response from the opposition Social Democrats (SPD), who accused the government of "blunders and failures."

SPD Member of Parliament Ernst Scheubel said that a Frankfurt-area government branch charged with overseeing sensitive exports "does not deserve the name of a control authority."

"The real problems in weapons exports aren't just the illegal ones, but also especially the legal ones," he added.

## Clashes leave hundreds dead in Ethiopia

DIJIBOUTI (R) — A week of clashes between Ethiopian government forces and tribal groups has left hundreds of men, women and children dead in eastern Ethiopia, according to state radio in neighbouring Djibouti.

Fighting erupted between troops and men of the Issa and Gurgura tribes a week ago near Harar, 370 kilometres east of the capital Addis Ababa, and was continuing, the radio said.

"Hundreds of civilians, notably women and children, have been killed in the fighting," it said, adding that many died in government shelling.

By late Thursday the Harar area was reported to be in government control but rail services between Addis Ababa and the Red Sea port of Djibouti had been cut since Tuesday, the radio said.

More than a million refugees and drought-stricken people in eastern Ethiopia could be deprived of relief food if the road and railway from Djibouti are severed. About 200,000 tonnes of supplies are waiting to be moved from the port.

Reasons for the fighting were unclear, but Issa and Gurgura leaders said in July they were unhappy with the number of seats given to them in a new government established after rebels overthrew dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam last May.

Government troops are mainly ethnic northerners from the former rebel Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF).

A national charter adopted by the government promises human rights, multi-party elections in 1993 and a large measure of regional autonomy for Ethiopia's 80 ethnic groups.

### MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

**Fundamentalists denounce Tunisian executions**

PARIS (R) — The outlawed Tunisian fundamentalist party Al Nahda Friday condemned the hanging of three of its members and two other men in Tunis this week and said there would be more executions. "This murderous folly heralds new executions in the wake of the numerous political trials that are pending," Al Nahda's president, Rachid Ghannouchi, said in a statement released in Paris. The three fundamentalists had been convicted of burning a guard alive during an attack on the offices of the ruling Democratic Constitutional Union Party. "It is a provocation for our movement and all free men in Tunisia," Mr. Ghannouchi said, adding his party would remain committed to democratic change in Tunisia.

**Smog blocks sunlight in Iran**

NICOSIA (AP) — A thick black smog covered parts of Ilam province in southwestern Iran early Friday, Tehran Radio reported. The broadcast said the haze blocked sunlight from reaching parts of the province. The smog appeared in the southern end of the province, and was moving in a northerly direction, the radio said. It did not report its cause. But smoke billowing from burning oil wells in Kuwait and Iraq has been responsible for thick smog and black rain in many parts of the region, including Iran.

**Iranian town shaken by quake**

NICOSIA (AP) — An earthquake jolted the town of Ardal in Iran's central Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari province Friday, Tehran Radio reported. The broadcast said the quake, which struck at 6:45 a.m. (0415 GMT), measured 5.2 on the Richter scale. No reports on casualties or damage were received at the time of the report, the radio said. The Richter scale is a gauge of the energy release by an earthquake, as measured by the ground motion recorded on a seismograph. Every increase of one number means that the ground motion is 10 times greater. An earthquake measuring 5 on the scale can cause considerable damage.

**Shas deputy under forgery probe**

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's attorney general asked parliament how to lift the immunity of an ultra-orthodox legislator so he could be tried on suspicions of forgery and theft. The issue is politically volatile since the suspect's party, Shas, has threatened to withdraw support for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's ruling coalition over the probe. Shas, a Hebrew acronym for Torah Guardians, holds five of 120 seats in parliament. Mr. Shamir's coalition is supported by 66 legislators. A justice ministry statement said Yosef Harish, the attorney general, asked Speaker Dov Shilansky to have "parliament lift the immunity of legislator Yair Levy, so he can be tried in criminal proceedings" on four counts. Mr. Levy is suspected of "managerial theft, forgery of a document under grievous circumstances, false registration of corporate documents, and causing corporate harm by means of fraud and breach of confidence," the statement said. It said Mr. Harish also gave Mr. Shilansky a draft of a charge sheet that would be filed against Mr. Levy if parliament lifts his immunity. Army radio said the sheet was 37 pages and included an unusually long list of 185 witnesses. Israeli media reports have said that Mr. Levy, who has been under investigation for months, was suspected of forging signatures on party checks for sums of hundreds of thousands of Israeli shekels.

## Somalia appeals for help

NAIROBI (R) — Somalia's new interim government has appealed for international aid for the country, torn apart by ethnic warfare and famine, Mogadishu Radio said.

Nine months after guerrilla forces ousted dictator Mohammed Siad Barre from Mogadishu, clashes between clan-based factions are still raging and starvation has hit most of the Horn of Africa country, relief officials say.

Mohammad Qanyaro Farah, the new interior minister in a cabinet formed last week, made his aid appeal Thursday, said the radio.

Relief officials echoed Mr. Farah's grim assessment of food shortages among the 900,000 people of Mogadishu and in rural areas, particularly north of the capital.

"The situation in Somalia is catastrophic. People have been dying for five months," said an official of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the only relief agency which operates throughout Somalia.

A Reuters correspondent who recently visited the war-torn capital saw hospital wards full of emaciated children. Up to 90 per cent of the rural population is suffering from lack of food, aid workers reported.

Substantial relief supplies have been pledged for Somalia, but there is little chance of all of them getting to the country until warring clans declare a truce and law and order is restored, donors said.

The radio quoted Qanyaro Farah as saying his ministry would provide security to protect aid shipments.

But earlier this week food shipments to the port of Kisumu, 400 kilometres south of the capital, had to be suspended after foreign relief officials were robbed by armed bandits.

"It's just a mess," said a diplomat responsible for Somalia but based in Nairobi.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**

18:00 .... Le Chevalier de Labyrinth

18:30 .... Les Chevaliers du Ciel

19:00 .... News in French

19:15 .... Documentary

19:30 .... News in Hebrew

20:00 .... News in Arabic

20:30 .... Totally Hidden VI

21:00 .... Escapade

21:30 .... Life on the Land

21:45 .... News in English

22:00 .... Futurologia "Aurora"

**PRAYER TIMES**

06:15 .... Fajr

07:32 .... (Sunrise) Dhuhr

11:22 .... Asr

14:37 .... Maghrib

17:12 .... Night

**CHURCHES**

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swidish, Tel. 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624950

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 837440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrace Church Tel. 622566

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 62585, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772611

St. Raphael Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 633265

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623624, 654952

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

**WEATHER**

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A gradual rise in temperatures will take place and which will be north-easterly light to moderate. In Asafa winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Amman .... Min./Max. temp. 14/29

Aqaba .... 21/33

Damascus .... 15/32

Jordan Valley .... 20/34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29, Asafa 31. Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent, Asafa 35 per cent.

### JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:

Dr. Kayed Halayqa ..... 735222

Dr. Abdul Majid Shaw ..... 774149

Dr. Saad Tammam ..... 698921

First pharmacy ..... 661912

Second pharmacy ..... 778336

Al Anwar pharmacy ..... 670555

Neeloud pharmacy ..... 626672

Al Salam pharmacy ..... 696735

Yasir pharmacy ..... 644945

Shawab pharmacy ..... 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Ali Omar ..... (-)

Al Shawab pharmacy ..... (775252)

ZARQA:

Dr. Mufid Dhamra ..... (-)

Khalaf pharmacy ..... 965417

**EMERGENCIES**

Food Control Centre ..... 657111

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111

Police ..... 660341

Civil Defence Emergency ..... 189

Roadside Police ..... 52, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade ..... 891228

Police ..... 775121

Highway Police ..... 843402

Traffic Police ..... 863590

Public Security Department ..... 63021

Hotel Complaints ..... 661176

Water and Sewerage ..... 874667

Complaints ..... 787111

Telephone Information ..... 221

Overseas Calls ..... 660259

Central Amman Telephone ..... 625101

Repairs ..... 661101

Abdullah Telephone Repairs ..... 775111

Jordan Television ..... 774111

Water Authority ..... 630109

Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 615615

Electric Power ..... 636301

RU Flight Information ..... 66-3320

Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 66-3320

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Essam Medical Centre ..... 813613/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816

Al-Khad Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816

Isabel Amman Maternity ..... 623482

Mulham, J. Amman ..... 626140

Palestine, Shamsiah ..... 664371/4

Shamsiah Hospital ..... 669131

University Hospital ..... 845945

Army Medical ..... 6672279

Queen Alia Hospital ..... 6224020

The Islamic, Abdali ..... 6652237

Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 6651646

Indian, Al-Muhajirin ..... 771810/3

Al-Bank, J. Amman ..... 775111/26

Army Medical ..... 816511/15

Queen Alia Hospital ..... 6224020

Amal Hospital ..... 674125

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323

Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)983368

The Sun Hospital ..... (09)983372

Al-Bihar Medical Hospital ..... (09)98999

IRBID:

Princess Beena Hospital ..... (02)775555

Geck Catholic Hospital ..... (02)77275

Ibn Al-Nafis Hospital ..... (02)47180

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital ..... (09)914111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)50300-5, where it should always be verified.

**ARRIVALS**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:20 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

06:30 Damascus (RJ)

06:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)

06:30 Colombo (RJ)

06:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

06:30 Beirut (RJ)

06:30 London (RJ)

07:00 Cairo (RJ)

07:00 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)

07:00 Tripoli (RJ)

07:00 Helsinki, Aqaba (RJ)

**DEPARTURES**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:25 Beirut (RJ)

06:30 Aqaba (RJ)

11:00 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)

11:05 Brussels, London (RJ)

11:40 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

11:45 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)

11:50 Rome (RJ)

12:00 Madrid (RJ)

12:00 Geneva, Paris (RJ)

12:00 Cairo (RJ)

12:00 Jeddah (RJ)

12:05 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

12:05 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

**Other Flights (Terminal 2)**

06:00 Rome (RJ)

12:00 Cairo (RJ)

18:30 Rome (RJ)

**MARKET PRICES**

Upper/lower prices in \$/kg per kg

Apple ..... 720/350

Banana ..... 300/450

Beans (Mashammar) ..... 320/300

Beans ..... 300/300

Cabbage ..... 150/180

Cauliflower ..... 200/220

Cucumber (large) ..... 150/180

Cucumber (small) ..... 300/300

Eggplant ..... 250/180

Garlic ..... 850/750

Onion ..... 300/300

Pepper (hot) ..... 250/400

Pepper (sweet) ..... 220/250

Spinach ..... 600/300

Sweet melon ..... 220/250

Tomato ..... 200/200

Watermelon ..... 150/40

**Other Flights (Terminal 2)**

06:30 Paris (RJ)

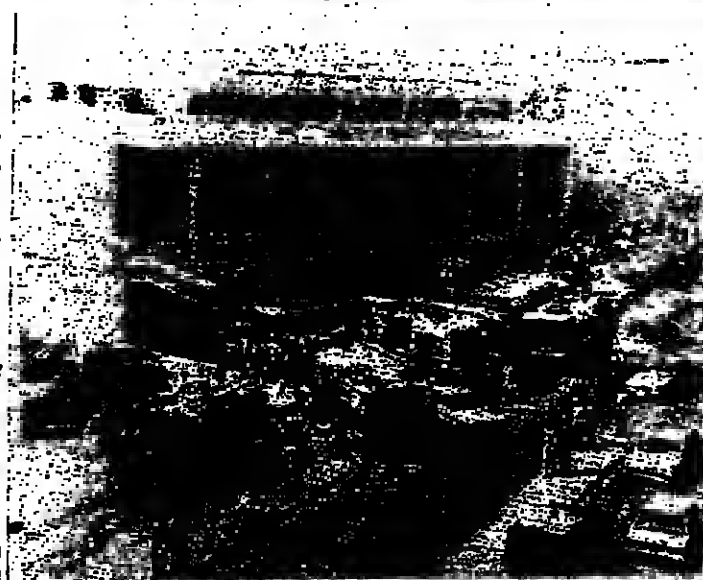
06:30 Beirut (RJ)

11:40 Rome (RJ)

12:00 Cairo (RJ)

22:30 Paris (RJ)





A fire Thursday at the Ministry of Finance caused minor damage but no injuries (Petra photo)

## Fire at Finance Ministry causes minor damage

AMMAN (J.T.) — A fire which broke out in the underground car park of the Ministry of Finance in downtown Amman on Thursday resulted in the total destruction of one car but no injuries or other damages to the building or any of the other 25 cars parked in the same area.

A total of 13 vehicles and 40 officers and workers from the Civil Defence Department (CDD) took only five minutes to put out the fire, which engulfed a Volkswagen car owned by one of the ministry's officials, according

to a CDD spokesman at the scene. He said that the fire was caused by a cigarette lighter which a park worker had lit in order to examine a spot of oil and gasoline he had found under the parked car. Although it took only five minutes to put out the fire, it took CDD workers nearly one and a half hours to pump out the smoke and fumes out of the building, according to CDD officials. They said at least four water trucks were brought to the scene to help in firefighting efforts.

## Members of Prophet Mohammad's Army plead not guilty

AMMAN (J.T.) — All 16 members of the so-called Prophet Mohammad's Army, on trial for taking part in sabotage activity, plotting to kill prominent personalities in the country and carry out other terrorist activities, have pleaded not guilty before the State Security Court.

The accused appeared in court Thursday with their lawyers and heard the military prosecutor general reading out the charge sheet. The prosecutor general indicated that the group was involved in illegal possession of weapons, have taken part in a number of terrorist actions and had plotted to assassinate a number of people in Jordan.

Judge Youssef Fawzi asked each of the defendants what they would plead, to which all said they were not guilty of the charges. The court later heard the testimony of four witnesses from the Armed Forces.

The first witness was First Lieutenant Issa Al Tajiri from the Public Security Department who was severely injured in a car bomb explosion allegedly planted

by the clandestine group last July. The second witness was Dr. Mohammad Badawi from the Al Hussein Medical City who had treated the victim.

The third witness, Dr. Youssef Oweikat, is a neurologist working at the Al Hussein Medical City and the fourth witness was Colonel Zuhair Karmi, who had treated Nancy Haddad, a victim of another car bomb explosion.

Altogether, 20 members of the clandestine group are on trial, but two are still at large and are being tried in absentia. The police last July arrested 151 people in connection with the group's activities but later released all but those that are now on trial.

By pleading not guilty to the charges levelled against them, the accused have thus reversed their earlier statements, obtained under interrogation in which they admitted to have set fire to the French Cultural Centre in Amman last March and burned down two supermarkets in Amman, apparently because the stores sold liquor.



COMPUTER SHOWCASE — Ideal Systems Company, the authorized Apple dealer in Jordan, held its second annual Apple Day, on Friday the 4th of October.

Customers and friends were invited to a social event in the form of "Apple Cafe Treats" where food and beverages were served by the Amman Plaza Hotel. Several demonstrations on Apple's latest releases were held, in addition to entertaining games, latest video clips from Apple Computer and quizzes, where prizes were given away.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Art exhibition by Abdul Rauf Shammam, Khalid Jirwa and Mohammed Hameed Abdullah at Abdul Hameed Shammam Foundation Gallery (Open 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition by Ibrahim Rashid and Maha Abdul Karim at the British Council.
- ★ Comprehensive book exhibition at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art exhibition by Iraqi artists Ismail Khayyat, Mohammed Abdullah, Khater Mohammed, Ali Manshawi, Khalid Wali and Hameed Ali at Bahadur Art Gallery (located at the beginning of Gardens Street from Safeway).

## 4,000 people take part in march to raise funds for Cerebral Palsy Foundation

By Serene Hakeem

Special to the Jordan Times  
AMMAN — About 4,000 people participated in the march organized by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) Friday to raise funds to build a special education school for cerebral palsy children in Jordan.

"We have had tremendous response from the public and I am very glad to see that," Fakhri Bilbeisi, president of the CPF told the Jordan Times. "It is wonderful to see this huge number of participants who were so generous for such a worthy cause."

Leading the marchers on Friday was their Royal Highnesses Prince Ra'ed and Princess Majida. Accompanying the prince was a young handicapped marcher who insisted on walking the whole 12 kilometres of the march.

The CPF has been holding a number of activities over the past few years to raise enough money to build a special education school for an estimated 10,000 cerebral palsy children in Jordan. According to Mr. Bilbeisi, about 4,500 cerebral palsy children in Jordan are getting help. The rest are not because of shortages in funds and facilities, he said.



Participants walk along the route selected for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation's fund raising march.

Although Mr. Bilbeisi could not give a specific figure on the amount of money raised from the charity walk, he said that he was very hopeful that a good sum would be collected. He added that the CPF is also depending on donations from

humanitarian groups as well as individuals and companies. A number of local companies financed the march, which began at the Marriott Hotel. The marchers were greeted at the end with food and refreshments at Khairbet

Haj Hassan. Her Majesty Queen Noor arrived at the conclusion of the march and presented the winner, who was the first to arrive to the Khairbet Haj Hassan a trophy donated by Royal Jordanian Airlines.

## A family that paints together stays together

By Maha Addasi

Special to the Jordan Times  
AMMAN — Group exhibitions are a common occurrence in the art world, but not when the group is made up of father, mother and daughter as is the case with the current exhibition at the British Council near the First Circle.

The multi-faceted exhibition by the Iraqi family includes oil paintings by Ibrahim Rashid, ceramic work by his wife, Maha Abdul Karim, and sketches by their almost two-year-old daughter Susan. It also includes a wide variety of art and qualities ranging from a study of colour coordination to deep, complex ideas reflecting man's relationships throughout life.

Susan's art is mainly composed of colour families of watercolours, coordinated to complement each other and blotted randomly on paper. Her drawings shed light on the possible future in art.

"We did not realize Susan had any artistic inclinations until we came to Jordan from Iraq," Mr. Rashid said. "But I watched as Susan sketched in the common one directioned manner of colouring adopted by youngsters and discovered that she could pick her colours so that they never clash. So I have encouraged her."

The main crux of the exhibition is not only relationships painted in abstract form and vivid strong colours reflecting an intensity in the subjects on the canvas, but it is the relationship between these works with the ceramic work by Mrs. Abdul Karim. Although these are two different art forms, the subjects are in harmony with each other with both types of art holding the same theme and in some cases the same titles.

The identical themes between my wife's work and mine come through our similar thinking and our everyday lives together. We never discuss our work together, but we end up with very similar ideas which we have learned to develop and emphasize," Mr. Rashid said.



Susan Ibrahim

that ties the works of husband and wife is the emphasis they place on the human body and the use of symbols.

For example, in one oil painting entitled "love" two figures are standing face to face. One figure has a grey face while the other figure is lighter in colour. In deep contrast, a heart in deep crimson is showing as though through transparent skin.

Similarly, Mrs. Abdul Karim has a work entitled "Two-Lovers" which depicts two blue-green figures next to each other with their heads leaning towards each other.

There are some themes, however, that show each artist's unique ideas. Mrs. Abdul Karim uses symbols very differently from Mr. Rashid.

In her work entitled "Innocence" Mrs. Abdul Karim has drawn on a tray of ceramic a one-eyed figure in yellow on a blue background. The eye, oversized and very wide, symbolizes naivety.

The symbols in Mr. Rashid's work are often already there on the paper he paints on. "I paint on book covers and leave out some of these letters already on that cover unpainted so that they contribute to the new idea I have created," he said.

Mr. Rashid and Mrs. Abdul Karim are both graduates of the Academy of Fine Arts in Baghdad. This is Mr. Rashid's tenth exhibition and Mrs. Abdul Karim's ninth. The exhibition will last until Oct. 12.

## Jordan, Sudan continue discussions

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Sudanese delegation discussing trade and economic ties with Jordan resumes talks with Jordanian government ministers and officials today before leaving for home Sunday, according to Sudanese embassy sources.

The delegation, led by Sudanese Minister of Trade, Cooperation and Supply Ibrahim Abdullah, was received by Prime Minister Taher Masi in the presence of Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Ali Abul Ragheb.

The two ministers briefed Mr. Masi on the progress of talks between Amman and Khartoum, which started Wednesday to promote economic and trade links between them.

Following the meeting, Dr. Abdullah and his team visited the Amman Industrial City where they visited several Jordanian factories.

## Techniques of management and manufacture discussed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A workshop dealing with documentation in the process of manufacturing pharmaceutical products continues here Saturday with the participation of delegates and specialists from four Arab countries.

Methods and techniques adopted in the Arab World for the management of manufacturing medicines and medical equipment are being scrutinized by delegates from Jordan, Sudan, Iraq and Yemen during their three-day workshop, which started Thursday.

Addressing the opening session, Minister of Social Development and acting Health Minister Awad Al Bashir paid tribute to the efforts of the Federation of

Arab Producers of Medicines and Medical Appliances, which is organising the workshop in cooperation with the Health Ministry. He also spoke in detail about Jordan's endeavours in medicine production.

The Kingdom now has six plants which produce high-quality medicines and another is being established. Much of the products are exported to Arab and foreign countries, according to the minister.

He said that Jordan has established five plants to produce veterinary medicines, part of which is also exported.

The types of medicines produced in Jordan last year covered 46 per cent of the country's various needs and the Health Ministry is seeking to achieve further progress and produce most of the local market's needs of medicines, said Dr. Bashir.

Another speaker, Federation Chairman Nizar Jardaneh, outlined the federation's activities, and objectives since its establishment in 1986. The federation strives to set unified specifications and standards of medicines and to upgrade the quality of products, he said.

The participants are to tour a number of Jordanian pharmaceutical industries and will review, among other things, a working paper dealing with Jordan's experiences and experiments in the manufacture of medicine and medical equipment.

## Announcement from the Ministry of Water and Irrigation Water Authority of Jordan invitation for bids

Date: 12/10/1991  
Loan No.: 3306 JO

1. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank and 4 grants from Canada, Luxembourg, Sweden and Switzerland in various currencies towards the cost of the Emergency Recovery Project (ERP) and it is intended that part of the proceeds will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for the purchase of goods listed in the table below under ERP.
2. The Water Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of items listed in the table below.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the tender documents at the office of the Tenders Division of the Water Authority, P.O. Box 2412, Amman, Jordan. Telephone 680100. Telex 22439 JO. Fax 679143.
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible bidder on submission of a written application to the above address and against the payment of a non-refundable fee specified in the table below.
5. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount listed in the table below, and must be delivered to the above office not later than 12:00 hours Jordan local time, as detailed in the table below.
6. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12:00 hours on dates specified in the table below at the Head Office of Water Authority at the above address.

Item No.	Contract No./Code	Description	Bid Bond Amount JD	Cost of Each Set of bid Documents JD	Opening Date
1.	26/91/AW	Air Compressors and welding machines	5,000	50	23/11/1991
2.	27/91/BIT	Drilling and hammer bits	11,000	100	23/11/1991
3.	28/91/CAB	Cables	9,000	100	23/11/1991
4.	29/91/CAS	Casing & Screen	12,500	100	23/11/1991
5.	30/91/CEM	Drilling chemicals and additives	3,500	50	23/11/1991
6.	31/91/FT	Black steel fittings and galvanized steel fittings	7,500	100	26/11/1991
7.	32/91/HOE	Wheeled backhoes	14,000	125	28/11/1991
8.	33/91/GLV	Galvanized steel pipes	30,000	150	28/11/1991
9.	34/91/HP	Horizontal pumps	18,000	125	26/11/1991
10.	35/91/JET	Jet guylies	27,500	150	26/11/1991
11.	36/91/LAB	Laboratory equipment	6,500	100	30/11/1991
12.	37/91/FP	Filer pipes	16,500	125	30/11/1991
13.	38/91/SP	Submersible pumps	5,000	100	30/11/1991
14.	39/91/STP	Black steel pipes	111,000	275	30/11/1991
15.	40/91/STR	Auto transformer	8,000	100	30/11/1991
16.	41/91/MLV	Valves	7,250	100	03/12/1991
17.	42/91/WM	Water meters	75,000	200	03/12/1991
18.	43/91/TOL	Plumbing tools	6,500	50	03/12/1991
19.	44/91/SM	Source water meters	8,000	100	03/12/1991
20.	45/91/CL	Chlorinators	18,000	125	03/12/1991

Eng. Mutazz Balbaleh  
Secretary General  
Water Authority

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### King congratulates Spain

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday sent a cable to King Juan Carlos of Spain, congratulating him on his country's national day. The King expressed his best wishes and appreciation to the Spanish monarch and wished the Spanish people further progress and prosperity.

### Delegation leaves for Tehran conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation headed by the Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat will take part in an international conference on supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people due to be held in Tehran on Oct. 19.

### Ministry, JCO reach agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Thursday signed an agreement under which the organisation will provide agricultural equipment to help farmers increase and improve their production.

AMMAN MARRIOTT HOTEL  
FAMILY BRUNCH  
FRIDAY & SUNDAY

From 11:30 am to 3:30 pm come and bring the family with you to enjoy our spectacular brunch where all your children below 1 meter tall will be the Marriott guests free. Special children buffet, games, music & lots of fun. Come and meet the Marriott clown. Price JD 11,000 ++ for adults JD 5,500 ++ for children above 1 meter up to 12 years old.

AMMAN  
Marriott  
HOTEL



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة التي تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. تأسست 1975.

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MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

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Facsimile: 661242

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## Brighter than gloomier

TODAY MARKS the opening of the national congress that will be addressed by His Majesty King Hussein on major external and domestic issues confronting the country. The peace process and the prospects of attaining a just and durable peace in the Middle East will be the main issues tackled in the King's speech. They will underline the hope and the agony of the people over what may lie ahead since the U.S.-brokered peace initiative has indeed reached a critical juncture that could make or break the entire quest for permanent and equitable peace between Israel and the Arab World.

Seen against this backdrop, it would be wrong to view the monarch's discourse today as basically targeting the few Jordanian personalities and dignitaries who have been selected as faithful representatives of not only all walks of life in the country but also all shades of opinion.

The actual audience of the King will be the whole country for the nation alone will be the final arbiter of what may be acceptable and what may not be. In this context, it is rather healthy that public opinion in Jordan is scattered on the best way to bring peace to the region as well as on other issues concerning the country. It would be rather unnatural to expect the people of Jordan to enjoy one monolithic position on fundamental subjects facing the nation, especially on the prospective peace parity between Israel and the Arabs.

As democracy in Jordan has gone a respectable distance towards maturing, it would be only natural and logical to anticipate a division of opinion and sentiment among Jordanians and their parliamentary representatives on the projected peace conference. There is therefore no reason or justification for exaggerated concern or panic over the rise of opposition within the ranks of the people or within the parliamentary forces. Such opposition, if reasonably reflected and expressed, can be a positive development that can aid the peace process rather than hinder it.

The world, including Israel, needs to know and appreciate that Jordan is proceeding to the peace talks with a heavy heart in view of the imbalance that exists internationally and regionally and that any concessions it may make in favour of peace in the area are not taken lightly but at a heavy cost. Israel has always been portrayed to the international community and to the Arab countries as woefully torn apart over the prospects of peace between it and its Arab neighbours. Israeli leaders have often exploited deep divisions within their country and capitalised on them in a bid to extricate a higher price for their willingness to play ball and attend peace negotiations.

Jordan has to have differences in opinion due to its democracy and stands to capitalise on it rather than be bitter or remorseful about it. The national debate on peace with Israel will surely pick up momentum after the King's address today. At least now it will have more reasonable parameters. The ensuing debate stands to strengthen the country and consolidate the forces of democracy in it. In this sense the future looks brighter rather than more gloomy.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily described the National Congress on Saturday, in which the King will deliver a candid address to his people as the climax of responsible democratic action. The candid talks and the ideas in the speech are designed to place all the facts before the Jordanian people, urging them to shoulder their national responsibilities in the face of the challenges and crucial situation the Kingdom is facing at the moment, the paper said. The King's open address comes on the eve of very important developments as the countries of the region prepare for a peaceful march leading to a safe shore away from a turbulent past, it noted. The paper said the Jordanian people are facing the coming stage with added confidence as they enjoy democracy and national unity which are essential elements for success. The King's address is indeed reflected in his interview published in the Yemen Times weekly and in which the King spoke frankly about the present and coming stages, manifesting his insight and his wisdom vis-a-vis the developments in the region, the paper pointed out. It urged the Jordanian people, particularly at this juncture, to show cohesion and to back the monarch's wise leadership in handling the country's affairs and in his on-going drive to achieve further progress for his people.

A writer in Al Ra'i daily urged the concerned authorities to set up special committees to hold investigations into repeated acts of abuse in the medical profession and serious blunders, which in many cases cause indelible psychological injuries or disability and death. Suber Al Tai reported that a nine-year-old girl who had been admitted to a hospital in Amman for a removal of the appendix, ended up with her loss of the ovary instead. The writer said that the girl now faces a grim future, being deprived of the right to bear children because of irresponsible behaviour or miscalculations and negligence on the part of the surgeons or hospital administrators. The slogan "The Human Person is the Most Precious Commodity" can no longer be sustained unless doctors and hospitals prove that it is so by ensuring the right service to humans, the writer stressed. She said that more than a month has elapsed since the scandal without any clear-cut results from investigations conducted by an appointed technical committee. Therefore, the responsibility for this shameful action has not yet been defined nor a particular specialist or administrator has yet been blamed. The writer said it does not require a lot of courage and determination on the part of the medical community in Jordan to adhere to and uphold the ethics of the medical profession and put an end to tampering with people's lives.

## Religion and science: The need for their integration

By Thomas J. Fitzpatrick

I am a Catholic, Jesuit priest working in Amman. When I first came to the Middle East four years ago, I asked my teacher of Arabic in Jerusalem a question: Do you, or the Arabs, feel under the pressure of a "cultural imperialism" by science and technology being imported to the Middle East from the West? The answer was striking to me and has been the source of much reflection since. She answered: "Oh no, we realise that what we are receiving in science and technology from the West is what we already gave to the West some hundreds of years ago."

The golden years of the Arabs was some thousand years ago, and it is true that the renaissance of Europe received a stimulus through Arab scholarship and erudition through Spain. But it was startling to me to hear that the science and technology of the contemporary world is a giving back what had first been given. There is a problem here which I enunciate in this way: modern science and technology has developed over the past five hundred years out of Western civilisation and this development has not been without great strain, which has been particularly felt within religious circles. What, then, does it mean for the culture of the Middle East to be taking on a modern developed science and technology without going through the parallel philosophical and theological strain?

You might with accuracy say that the scientific stimulus for the West came from the Arabs, but the blossoming of contemporary science has come from the West and the benefitting of the fruits of this blossoming has been with some pain. The Arab World has not suffered through this philosophical and religious pain. What does this mean now for Middle East society?

First of all, I suggest that science and technology are necessary in today's world if people are going to feed themselves. A case in point is this: the rudiments of medical science have become so sufficiently known throughout the world that population has been and is increasing dramatically. Unfortunately other branches of science have not kept up with basic medical advances. For survival, modern science is a necessity not only in the Middle East but around the world if people are going to have water to drink and food to eat. This necessity for modern science has happened so quickly that science in the Middle East and many other parts of the world is easily experienced as a cultural intrusion.

Because modern, developed science and technology have not sprung from the culture of the Middle East, in the Middle East, there is lacking an integration between religious thinking and

scientific thinking. Integration of science and religion has been most difficult in the development of science in the West and I do not propose that integration has occurred smoothly or well. I do not propose the West as a model to be followed. There have been and are great deficiencies in scientific and religious thinking in the West, but one positive point to be made is that the problem has been consciously dealt with for centuries in the West. It is a new challenge in the Middle East. And a particularly difficult aspect for the Middle East — which the West did not have to contend with — is that Middle East is adapting to a fully blown, well developed scientific and technological world.

The overall religious, social situation of the Middle East, whether it is Islamic or Christian, tends to be "settled." That means that the religious community does not experience the need to reflect on the basic belief system (the fundamentals) of the community. The system has been long established and the community feels threatened by any discussion — which is taken to mean, questioning — of the system. There are certainly many believing individuals who are reflective and seeking to deepen their belief through investigation; but the general force of the society is to rest contented with the often non-verbalised, accepted and non-questioned belief system.

In contrast the strict scientific thinker has to be open in his field of interest to question everything. Much progress in scientific thinking has been hindered in the past because of assumptions which scientists could not give up. Without an openness to new and what may appear as radical, possibilities science cannot progress. Implicit in this is another contrast between religious thinking and scientific thinking. Religious thinking is often from the top down; and scientific thinking is from the bottom up. A scientist works from individual experiments with things; his theories — no matter how sophisticated and abstract — come from observation of events. Religious thought has its origins in revelation.

The challenge of integration is difficult for any people; I think it is now particularly difficult for the peoples of the Middle East. It becomes even more difficult when scientific thinking is used in the study of religion itself. Archaeology, for one, is a science that has been very influential in religious studies and archaeology is a science governed by the method of science today. Religious believers fear that age old beliefs will be challenged and even proven inadequate through "scientific investigations." There is

also the fear that scientists may misuse science to "disprove" religion — this has been done in the past. (Christians, for example, in the last century could not easily accept the theory of evolution because some proponents of the theory were using it to disprove religion — especially creation. In the meantime we have learnt that we can believe in God and accept the theory of evolution at the same time).

The challenge for the integration of religious and scientific thinking in the Middle East is great. Fear can reject the challenge and the society may develop a schizophrenia, i.e. people may live and work in a modern scientific world, and pray and express religious devotion in a world that more and more becomes private and removed from the largest public and global reality.

Jordan is blessed at the present time by official encouragement of open discussions on issues. The people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, under the very capable leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, are urged to develop a democracy. In such an atmosphere it is the challenge for religious and civic leaders to raise the difficult and sometimes very bothersome questions facing this part of the world. One question that would be very fruitfully raised within the appropriate circles is this question of religion and science.

This umbrella issue touches many issues; one that is very important is scientific education and religion, because it is not uncommon in this part of the world that religious groups will serve very well as political opponents, but when they have authority they do not know how to deal with many contemporary problems (such as how to begin to meet the need for more water) because these problems demand a scientific approach which is lacking in their education. Also the issue of science and religion could be the subject for very fruitful dialogue between Muslims and Christians, because the religious questions arising from contemporary science are the same for everybody.

Integration, or the process of integration, of these two aspects of human life, religion and science, can only be a benefit for the people of the Middle East and the people of the world. Such an integration will take much time, effort and even pain. If we do not raise these, and other such important questions because they disturb people, we are proposing a deliberate policy of keeping people ignorant. In today's world of global communication this can only eventually backfire. The future health of the people of the Middle East is honestly to raise the difficult questions facing us all.

## The Week in Print

### Government-Parliament row harms national interests

THE U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's coming tour of the Middle East, the prospects of peace between the Arabs and Israel along with the ongoing embargo and inspection teams work in Iraq and domestic issues were the main features in the columns appearing in the local press in the past week.

As Mr. James Baker embarks on his new tour of the region, he realises that the Shmami government is the only party placing obstacles in the path of implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 through a U.S.-sponsored peace plan and a Middle East conference, said Al Ra'i daily. In contrast, the paper said, the Palestinians are crystallising their position and reacting very positively to the American initiative.

The paper said that Mr. Baker is facing a very difficult mission, especially as the Israelis are determined to abort the U.S. plan by pursuing provocative actions in the occupied Arab territories through embarking on a new act of aggression against Arab countries.

Mr. Baker embarks on his eighth mission backed by all the Arab parties and the Palestine National Council which have supported the U.S. peace plan, said Sawt Al Shaab daily. There is no doubt that the Arab side will continue to respond favourably as long as the U.S. plan aims at implementing resolutions that are bound to achieve an exchange of land for peace and the restoration of Arab rights in Palestine, said the paper.

A columnist in Al Dustour said that the United States and its allies are directing their attention to stripping Iraq of its weapons after forcing the country to implement international legitimacy and implement U.N. resolutions. But these same powers are still contemplating means of forcing Israel to give up occupied Palestinian land occupied since 1967, said Mohammad Daoudieh. If Iraq has committed a crime, it has now paid for it and was punished, but what about the Israelis who are allowed to occupy Arab countries and escape punishment, asked the writer.

Suleiman Qubeltat, a columnist in Al Dustour, cast a gloomy picture of the Arab region because of the Arab countries' total submission to the will of the U.S.-Zionist alliance. The writer said that Mr. Baker's shuttle missions and talks with the Arab and Israeli leaders can only result,

in the achievement of Zionism's objectives and not those of the Arabs.

The Arabs are going to the peace conference in disarray and in total submission and therefore they are bound to give in to Israel's demands and be humiliated, said the writer. He called on the Arabs to reject the conference and refuse to accept the U.S.-Israeli hegemony.

A columnist in Al Dustour supported the Syrian foreign minister's call on the Arab countries directly involved in conflict with Israel to meet in Damascus soon to prepare a joint stand regarding the coming conference.

Hamedeh Al Farasneh said that the Israelis are preparing themselves for any eventuality and making ready to face the Arabs at the negotiating table. Therefore, he said, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and the Palestinians should hold their parley as soon as possible to reach a common stand.

Farasneh's view was backed by Taber Al Udwan, another columnist in Al Dustour. He said that the peace conference is a very important development which requires ample preparation and concerted efforts. The writer urged the five Arab parties to meet not only to discuss their unified position but also to overcome the differences and find means of supporting the Palestinians.

A number of writers turned the readers' attention to the situation in Iraq. Bader Abdel Haq referred to the general Arab people's conference in Baghdad which opened Thursday.

Writing in Al Ra'i, Abdel Haq said that the conference, which is attended by hundreds of prominent personalities in the Arab World, should not give lip-service to the Iraqi people in their plight, but should offer an action plan for the Arab masses to help end the blockade.

The writer said that the United States is continuing its economic and military aggression against Iraq and it is the duty of the Arab World to find means to put an end to this atrocity.

Salameh Elkour, who writes for Sawt Al Shaab daily, suggested that the Baghdad conference give attention to two questions: lifting the blockade imposed on Iraq and a formula that could safeguard the pan-Arab struggle on all fronts and protect the nationalist initiative started by Iraq to ensure progress and dignity for the Arab World.

A columnist in Al Dustour voiced bitterness over the loss of scientific progress in Iraq and said that the Iraqi authorities should have given priority to developing Iraq's military industry rather than being involved in adventures that have resulted in a catastrophe for the whole Arab Nation.

Muhs Al Razzaz said that lack of democracy in Iraq allowed the ruler to take a decision according to his desires and whims that led to great loss. It is unreasonable for the Arabs to demand from the international community to end the embargo on Iraq at a time when the Arab countries themselves are maintaining such blockade, said Mahmoud Rimawi in a column published in Al Ra'i daily.

The conference in Baghdad should serve as an important occasion for the Arabs show their willingness and determination to abort the American blockade and end the injustice and starvation facing the Iraqi people.

Turning to domestic issues, the three Jordanian dailies and the columnists tackled the ongoing dispute between the government and Parliament members who had demanded the government's resignation and voiced no confidence in it.

Al Ra'i daily said that the wrangling between the two sides was causing real harm to the national interests, at a time when the Parliament members should be giving attention to more pressing problems. The deputies are interfering in matters beyond their jurisdiction, said the paper.

Al Dustour daily said that by demanding the resignation of the government, Parliament members are breaking parliamentary rules in Jordan and taking an unconstitutional step.

The paper accused Parliament members opposing the government of harbouring desires to become ministers and fighting the government on purely personal grounds.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily called for national unity in Jordan so that the democratic process can take its proper course.

Salameh Elkour criticised the deputies who, after giving a vote of confidence in the government during a parliamentary session, are threatening to bring down the government at a time when the House is not in session.

## Kuwait turns to West as best defence against further attack

By Diana Abdallah Renter

KUWAIT — Kuwait, ignoring Arab offers to help and Iranian criticism, has turned to the West as its best defence against further aggression by Iraq.

Since U.S.-led forces freed Kuwait from seven months of Iraqi occupation last February, the emirate's main concern has been to chart a defence policy that would guarantee its safety.

"Right from the start, the Kuwaitis made it very clear that they wanted security arrangements with the West rather than with fellow Arabs," one senior Western diplomat said.

"There is still fear from Iraq in this country and they see the United States and the West as their only security guarantee. That is why they have been working very hard to reach these agreements," he added.

France had said it had agreed in principle on a defence accord with Kuwait under which French forces would store weapons and use military bases in the emirate.

Kuwait has signed a similar 10-year pact with the United States. Another is also under discussion with Britain.

The three countries formed the bulk of the allied forces that drove Iraqi troops out of the emirate. Since then they have enjoyed big political, military and economic influence in Kuwait.

In contrast, an agreement to set up a pan-Arab force last March between Kuwait, its Gulf Arab allies, Egypt and Syria collapsed after months of wrangling on the size, cost and role of the force.

Under the Damascus Declaration as the agreement was called, Egypt and Syria would have provided the bulk of the force to be financed by the Gulf Arab states.

The pact with the United States will give U.S. forces access to unspecified Kuwaiti ports, envisages U.S. forces training and conducting military exercises with Kuwaiti forces and will allow U.S. military equipment to be stored in Kuwait.

Western diplomats said Kuwait had hoped for a permanent U.S. military presence in the emirate.

But Washington and its Western allies believe such a presence would upset their efforts to improve ties with Kuwait's giant neighbour Iran, which is still sensitive to Western military and political roles in the oil-rich Gulf region.

Iran, eager to play a key role in post-war Gulf security, criticised the pact with Washington and hinted that it could affect relations with Kuwait.

Kuwaiti officials say they have been trying to allay fears in Iran, which believes that regional states should look after their own security.

"We have explained to them that our defence pacts would have no bearing on our relations in the region. We have made it clear we are ready to cooperate with Iran," one official said.

"Iran has to understand that we have just been through a bad experience and we have been

stabbed by a fellow Arab and resorting to the West now is our only option," he added.

The Gulf states supported Iraq during its 1980-1988 war with Iran but their relations with Iran dramatically improved during the Gulf war when it remained neutral but opposed to the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

Iraq's attempts to win a role in the post-war security arrangements in the Gulf have made little progress.

Kuwait is a member of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), whose mutual defence pact failed to deter the Iraqi invasion.

Most of Kuwait's GCC partners — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman — say they have no objections to the emirate's defence plans because of its occupation by Iraq and the fact that it is still seen as a frontline state.

The GCC states are planning to expand their own forces with equipment and training provided mainly by Western allies.

Diplomats say Kuwait is buying high-technology weapons to rebuild its army. It now numbers around 5,000 men who are being trained by U.S. forces.

Washington announced in March that 40 F-15 warplanes would be sold to Kuwait to upgrade its air force. A Kuwaiti defence official was quoted on Sunday as saying that the United States was repairing the emirate's two airbases — Almad Al Jabr and Ali Salem — under a \$105-million contract.

Sheikh Nasser Saud Al Sabah, deputy undersecretary at the Ministry of Defence, told the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) that the emirate had prepared a five-year plan to rebuild its military installations.

He estimated the damage caused by Iraq and the Gulf war at one billion dollars.

## LETTERS

### Promoting tourism

To the Editor:

BY writing this letter, I wish to draw the attention of the Ministry of Tourism and the tourist authorities concerned to the following points, myself and five other friends visiting the Ma'in Spa Complex, noticed last Thursday:

1. Swimming pools are accessible to everybody, rather than to families and tourist groups. I suggest that special swimming pools be designated for families and tourist groups.
2. The swimming pool area, including the restaurant, is full of flies and wasps which try to share your food and deprive you of the fun you expect from such a trip.
3. Toilets are not provided with soap, towels and toilet paper. To be honest and closer to accuracy I must admit that there was a very small piece of soap on one of the many washstands.
4. Bottled water and soft drinks are scarce items, and are not served even if you request them against payment. We tried to call the person in charge of water and soft drinks, but he did not bother to come waving instead from afar, trying to say that there was nothing of the sort available.

These are some of the comments I came up with following a day trip to Ma'in, a place widely promoted in the local press. By the way, there were many Iraqi families with us on this trip, and I heard them complain about the level of services offered at this place.

As a Jordanian concerned about the image of my country and about encouraging tourism to it, I sincerely appeal to the parties concerned to try to save tourism, which is one of the pillars of our economy.

Finally, I hope that everybody, tourists, officials, employees or ordinary citizens will act as a true citizen and contribute to the cleanliness of these places.

Must. Ameh, Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.



# Columbus anniversary: A time to mourn, commemorate and reflect

By Robert Dvorak  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Whither Columbus? Explorer or Evil-doer? Discoverer or despoiler?

Nearly five centuries after his epic 70-day voyage, this native of Italy and agent of Spain is at the center of a tricky cross-current equal to any encountered when he headed West to find East in 1492.

Just consider some Columbus Day events this year. Replicas of the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria depart Spain Oct. 12 on a journey retracing Columbus' Atlantic route. In Washington, D.C., a ceremony at the Columbus statue and a reception at the Columbus Club kick off a year-long national observance.

But at sunrise, in another corner of the U.S. capital, an American Indian group known as the 1992 Alliance will read the names of native tribes exterminated by sword or disease after Columbus landed. The memorial begins what is called "The Year of the Indigenous Peoples."

This time, it seems, the Indians are ready for Columbus, and they aren't laying down a welcome mat.

"Indians had a lax immigration policy back then," said Susan Harjo, national coordinator of the 1992 Alliance and a Cheyenne and Creek Indian. She offered this short history: "They came,

we welcomed, they killed."

Such are the sensitivities that the national Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission will commemorate, not celebrate, what is called an encounter, not a discovery. Some call it an invasion.

Although Columbus died in relative obscurity, he is the world's best known explorer. More pieces of America are named for him than anyone other than George Washington, including 47 cities and towns in the United States, plus universities, rivers, streets and plazas.

But Columbus-bashers now blame him for genocide, slavery, colonialism, the plunder of treasure of gold and silver and environmental destruction.

The National Council of Churches set aside 1492 as a year of repentance and reflection. The discovery of America, the organization asserted, brought "legalized occupation, genocide, economic exploitation and a deep level of institutional racism and moral decadence."

Columbus "makes Hitler look like a juvenile delinquent," said Indian activist Russell Means.

"The Spanish conquest must be repudiated. Celebrating it would be shameful and the justification of a massacre," said Ecuadorian Indian leader Manuel Castro.

Indian groups are greeting the replicas of Columbus' caravels with protest canoes, sailing to

Europe to discover Spain and grieving the loss of life and land with periods of silence.

Columbus' champions are pressing ahead with their celebrations. In addition to sponsoring an anniversary voyage that will end in San Francisco on Oct. 12, 1992, Spain is host to a world's fair. Italy also plans observances.

But the anti-celebrations have sucked some of the wind out of their sails.

"These groups are seeking to associate Columbus with every ill that has beset the new world since it was introduced to the old world," said Philip R. Piccolino, executive director of the order of sons of Italy in America.

Some scholars see the 500th anniversary as an opportunity to tell the unvarnished story. Maybe it's time to discover Columbus.

"The best might lead to some light. No one holds the ultimate truth in this matter," said John Herbert of the Library of Congress. "Ultimately, the whole idea about the quincentennial is about America. We're all part of it."

Leif Ericsson and the Vikings preceded Columbus. Discovery is a debatable choice of words; millions were already living on the lands they found, although Europeans and Indians were equally unaware the other existed.

And Columbus blundered by thinking he was in Asia when he

landed somewhere in the Bahamas. He named the new land San Salvador; the people living there called it Guanahani.

What Columbus did was boldly sail a course that no one had sailed before. In the process, he irrevocably linked two worlds, willingly or unwillingly, that were separated by continental drift eons before. The world is still trying to sort out the consequences.

"Basically, Columbus bumps into a strange place, calls the people he finds Indians, and tells them, 'don't go away, I will be right back.' Unfortunately for the Indians, he kept his word," said Herman Viola, director of the Columbus quincentenary at the National Museum of Natural History.

Columbus actually made four trips to the new lands. He brought soldiers of fortune, horses, cows, pigs, sheep and some unwanted baggage: the black rat, measles, smallpox, diphtheria, the common cold and other European plagues the settlers gave to defenseless natives who perished by the millions.

The Spaniards didn't want them to die, which makes many scholars dispute the genocide charge. They hoped to enslave the natives to work the new sugar cane plantations, ventures that led to the first destruction of the rain forest. But when the natives

died, African slaves were imported.

Also part of the Columbus legacy is the change in world eating habits. Explorers introduced wheat and barley while discovering maize, potatoes, cocoa and tobacco. Imagine a world without popcorn, French fries and chocolate bars.

"The essential thing about 1492 is that it was the first step in the unification of the globe," said Norman Fiering of the John Carter Brown Library, which is dedicated to the history of the Western Hemisphere.

Just 50 years after Columbus' landfall, historian Francisco Lopez De Gomara called it "the greatest event since the creation of the world, excluding the incarnation and death of him who created it."

On past anniversaries, the

trend was to name things after Columbus.

In 1792, a fledgling republic named the home of its capital the District of Columbia.

A century ago, New York erected a statue atop a pillar of Italian marble at a site named Columbus Circle off Columbus Avenue, and the composer Anton Dvorak honored Columbus with his "new world symphony." The world's Columbian exposition in Chicago was called "the jubilee of mankind."

The 500th anniversary includes everything from an elaborate flower show in Columbus, Ohio, to Hollywood spectacles, TV documentaries and tall-ship regattas. But the commemoration has not been without its problems.

John Goodie, chairman of the congressionally created Christ-

opher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, resigned in December after questions were raised about finances and management.

His replacement, James Kuhn, said plans are proceeding smoothly, and the way it sounds, gingerly.

"We are commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage to the new world," Mr. Kuhn said. "What took place was an encounter, but that encounter happened to be one of the most important events of the last 500 years. That encounter led to many, many discoveries."

The commission has a native American advisory council, headed by Klamath Indian William Ray. He sees the quincentenary as a chance for Indians to tell their side of the story.

"What Indian people want is a

more equitable view of what happened. It wasn't all a great adventure," said Mr. Ray. "There are Indian tribes that no longer exist except in name. We want to honour those who did not make it."

And the climactic sermon at Washington's National Cathedral on Oct. 12, 1992, will be delivered by Bishop Steven Charleston, a Choctaw Indian who is the leader of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska.

"1992 should be a time of very sincere and sober reflection for everyone," Bishop Charleston said. "The issue is not the captain, it's the cargo. To simply focus on Columbus is to miss the boat. We need to stop and ask hard, serious questions about what colonialism has cost all of us in human lives and in the environment over the last 500 years."

## Islamists to press campaign

(Continued from page 1)

igned. But, despite the failure of Mr. Masri to reach an agreement with the Constitutional Bloc — a group of conservative loyalists in parliament — the cabinet survived.

Analysts believe that the role played by the Jordan Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA), a broad alliance of leftist parties and liberal and independent personalities, was crucial in helping the cabinet withstand the opposition by the Constitutional and Islamic blocs.

But the two blocs entered a tactical alliance and enlisted several leftist and Arab nationalist deputies, to issue a call on the Masri government to resign.

In the interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Azaidah refused to characterize the movement's coordination with other blocs in parliament. "This is not an alliance. We have not changed our position towards the government. The new development was that others decided to take a different position," he said.

He said that the Constitutional Bloc did not seek the formation of the cabinet but that it was a result of "wide contacts among parliamentarians."

He implied that the movement, despite its political differences with the Constitutional Bloc, agreed to coordinate with the group in an attempt to block the government's participation in the peace conference.

The Brotherhood official said that the cabinet should not take part in the peace conference without parliamentary approval.

When pressed what will be the reaction of the movement if the Constitutional Bloc, which supports peace talks with Israel, reached a compromise with the cabinet, he said: "If the cabinet failed in securing parliamentary approval to go to the peace conference it should not go, but if parliament supported Jordan's participation then we shall confine ourselves to the role of the opposition."

The Brotherhood, and even the leftist parties that support the government, have publicly criticized the postponement of the regular parliament session.

The Brotherhood's newspaper Al Baraa, which was confiscated last Wednesday, and the leftist Al Ahdad criticized the absence of parliament of this crucial stage.

A paragraph in the editorial of Al Ahdad, a newspaper of the Jordan People's Democratic Party (JPDP), was censored Wednesday for criticizing the absence of parliament.

"We do support the cabinet, but we believe that it is dangerous to take important decisions in the absence of parliament," JPDP leader Tayser Zaki told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

A source close to the government said that the problem with the Constitutional Bloc will make a parliamentary vote on the peace process difficult since the bloc is expected to vote against it in an attempt to undermine Mr. Masri's cabinet even though it does not really oppose the peace conference.

A source close to the government said that the problem with the Constitutional Bloc will make a parliamentary vote on the peace process difficult since the bloc is expected to vote against it in an attempt to undermine Mr. Masri's cabinet even though it does not really oppose the peace conference.

In its banned weekly, the Brotherhood expressed regret over the absence of Parliament. "We were hoping that parliament should not miss its political role at these crucial conditions... while the Jewish Knesset, the American Congress and the other parliaments of our enemies are active in full swing," Al Baraa said.

The official source said that Al Baraa contained explicit anti-government incitement which could have posed a serious threat to national security.

The banner headline of Al Baraa called for a referendum over the peace conference while another front-page headline warned that "the decision of consultation (with Israel) would be the rope that hang the nation."

Another front-page article claimed that the recent "cosmetic" cabinet reshuffle, confirmed the Brotherhood's initial suspicions that the cabinet was paving the way for peace with Israel.

The newspaper also called on the Palestinian groups to renounce "the shameful" PNC decisions in Algiers last month.

The copies of the two pages which were made available to the Jordan Times did not contain a cartoon which government officials said was extremely offensive.

In response to accusations of incitement, Mr. Azaidah said: "We have the right to mobilize people against the dangers of the peace process... we are not going to give up our right to such forms of opposition."

But he stressed once again that the Brotherhood will avoid violent means unless the government resorted to "such methods."

## Baker faces new snags

(Continued from page 1)

With some suggestions and we are waiting for answers."

While Mr. Hussein indicated the session was inconclusive, he gave no explicit account of what was holding up a Palestinian decision to attend the conference.

However, apparently still up in the air are the agenda, interpretations of U.N. Security Council resolutions calling for Israeli territorial withdrawal and which Palestinians would participate.

Mr. Hussein indicated his group needed guidance from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to resolve these issues after more than four hours of talks at the State Department. About two hours were spent with Mr. Baker and the rest with his deputies.

He did not refer to the PLO by name in responding to reporters' questions.

Mr. Baker, in warning of efforts to sabotage his mission, said he did not want to suggest the takeover by Jewish settlers of six Arab homes in East Jerusalem Monday was the kind of incident he had in mind.

Mr. Baker said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had called the action mistaken, and said he agreed with Mr. Shamir.

"I wouldn't want to take it any further than that," Mr. Baker said. An Israeli newspaper said on Friday Washington has told Palestinians

it sees the planned peace conference as a chance to end Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

The Dava newspaper said a draft letter of assurances Washington gave to Palestinian negotiators included a clause stating that the peace conference "takes the opportunity to end Israeli occupation."

The newspaper said it had acquired a copy of the draft from Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The letter said negotiations will facilitate "a peaceful and orderly transfer" of the occupied territories from Israel to the hands of the Palestinians.

Washington has said it wants negotiations to be based on the principle of exchanging occupied Arab land for peace but given no indication of how much land it wants to see relinquished.

Israel wants the final say over the composition of the Palestinian delegation and refuses to negotiate with members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation or residents of East Jerusalem.

The newspaper said the United States had guaranteed Palestinians the right to choose their own representatives, saying the issue "is not subject to anyone's veto."

The head of Israel's opposition Labour Party, Shimon Peres, predicted Friday that Washington would support Arab demands at the conference.



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# France set to clinch place in European finals

SEVILLE, Spain (R) — Michel Platini's resurgent French side have the chance to clinch a place in next summer's European Championship finals when they meet Spain Saturday.

France, unbeaten in 17 games, need only a point from their two remaining Group 1 matches to qualify for the finals in Sweden next year.

They have garnered a maximum 12 points from six group games but Platini is leaving nothing to chance.

"We will play this match seriously as we always do in internationals," he said. "But I would settle for a draw right now."

A point should be well within France's scope against a Spanish team in deep depression after a miserable qualifying campaign.

Home wins over Iceland and Albania were cancelled out by away losses to France and Czechoslovakia and the final nail was hammered into their coffin in a disastrous 2-0 defeat by Iceland in Reykjavik last month.

Further confusion was piled on to the home by press reports — later denied — that the Spanish Football Federation was considering dumping team coach Vicente Miera after only two comes in charge because he has not made wholesale changes after the Iceland debacle.

Real Madrid midfielder Michel Gonzalez was the one sacrificial lamb, dropped after 58 internationals while other veterans such as goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta and striker Emilio Butragueno retained their places.

The Spanish coach was forced to replace the injured Juan Goikoetxea with midfielder Miguel Soler.

Spain can at least take comfort from their record in international matches played in Seville.

They have not lost in 27 matches in the Andalusian capital, have been held to a draw only three times and have never conceded more than one goal.

For France, Seville holds darker memories of a 1982 World Cup semifinal they lost to West Germany on penalties after leading 3-1.

Neither team is likely to welcome the heavy rain which has fallen all over Spain for the past two days and is bound to produce a heavy and slippery pitch.

Platini has brought back striker Eric Cantona, who missed France's 2-1 win over Czechoslovakia in Bratislava last month through injury.

Midfielder Franck Sauzee is the only first choice player to miss Saturday's match. He hurt a thigh in a league game earlier this month and is replaced by Remi Garde of Lyon.

# Becker, Agassi ousted at Tokyo Indoor Tournament

TOKYO (R) — Boris Becker and Andre Agassi, two of the star attractions of the \$1 million Tokyo Super Indoor Tennis Tournament, were knocked out in the quarterfinals Friday.

But world number one Stefan Edberg and defending champion Ivan Lendl reached the semifinals with straight-set wins.

Becker, the world number two who returned to action here after five weeks off with back and thigh injuries, was beaten by seventh seeded American Derrick Rostagno 7-6 4-6 6-3 but declared himself not too disappointed.

"I just had an opponent who is extremely good," the German said. "I'm pretty much back in form. I need a couple more close matches like that to be on my best form."

Rostagno's relentless attacking game kept the pressure on Becker throughout the two-and-a-half-hour match.

"I volleyed just a bit better, especially in the big points," said Rostagno who will meet Lendl in Saturday's semifinals.

Fourth-seeded Agassi fell victim again to Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic, the man who beat him at the same stage in last week's Sydney Indoor ATP event.

Ivanisevic played solidly to defeat the world number eight 6-3 6-4 in just one hour.

"I played him in Sydney and I knew how I had to play him and I did it well," said the Croatian-born Ivanisevic.

Edberg, the U.S. Open champion and the winner of the Sydney tournament, crushed American Michael Chang, the eighth seed, 6-2 6-2 in 38 minutes.

"I played aggressively and I took chances here and there and kept coming to the net," Edberg said. "That's the way I beat him."

The top-seeded Swede will now take on Ivanisevic.

Lendl, seeded third, shrugged off a spirited challenge from American opponent David Wheaton to win his quarterfinal 7-6 7-5.

"I think I was just hitting some good shots in the deucebreak and I served well," said Lendl who produced 16 aces.

# Italy split over tactics against Soviet Union

MOSCOW (R) — Italy go into their crucial European Soccer Championship qualifier against the Soviet Union, Saturday divided over their tactics.

The Italians, who trail the Soviet side by four points with a game in hand, must win in Moscow's Olympic Stadium to retain any chance of reaching next year's finals in Sweden.

A Soviet victory would ensure the 1988 European Championship runners-up a place in Sweden.

Striker Gianluca Vialli has suggested Italy go for an early goal and then close ranks.

But Captain Franco Baresi said it would be better to wait for the Soviet side, unbeaten in Group 3 after six matches, to make a mistake.

"If we go immediately into the attack we'll get it all wrong. It is essential to be patient and not let oneself be gripped by fear," he said.

The teams, who battled to a 0-0 draw in Italy last year, will both want to forget the last qualifying games they played in the group.

Italy were humiliated 2-1 in Norway while the Soviet side, despite totally outplaying Hungary in Moscow, gave away two careless goals in a 2-2 draw.

Italian coach Azeglio Vicini and his Soviet counterpart Anatoly Byshovets are both able to call on in-form strikers.

### GOREN BRIDGE

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**PLAY OR DEFEND?**  
Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 10 4  
♥ Q J 6 4  
♦ Q 2  
♣ 8 7 4 3

**EAST**  
♠ A 8 7 5  
♥ A Q 9 8 3  
♦ A J 10 8 5  
♣ A 6 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ K 3  
♥ A K 10 9 5  
♦ A 8  
♣ A 9 5

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ DBL 2♥ Pass  
4♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣

There is a weekly pair game scored by International Match Points held at the Cavendish Club in New York that draws perhaps the strongest field of any club game anywhere. This hand involved three world champions and a mere winner of several North American team titles. Study the cards and decide whether you would rather play or defend four hearts after a trump lead.

In the modern style, North disregards the double and raises to two hearts on the same sort of hand that would merit such action had there been no intervention. North was dead minimum for the raise, so de-

# Al Orthodoxi wins U-19 title

By Aileen Boumaym  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The under-19 basketball competition came to an end Thursday but not before fans witnessed some more surprises in this very interesting championship organized by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF).

The final matches were attended by the Minister of Youth Saleh Irshaidat, JBF board members and a large number of basketball fans.

The under-19 competition and the final matches in particular proved beyond doubt that the outcome of a basketball match rests on the determination of a team and that no team is invincible.

In the first match Al Watani scored an unexpected 59-58 win against Al Jazireh who were aiming at the No. 2 spot but settled for No. 3.

In the other match, Al Ahli scored a convincing 59-43 win against Al Orthodoxi but the score difference was not good enough to enable them to retain their title and thus they settled for No. 2.

Al Orthodoxi who had played with great confidence throughout the competition could not even lead at any point during the game, while Al Ahli who had to win by more than 24 points to retain the title played their best match and were clearly determined to win as they led 8-0 in the 5th minute.

Outstanding play from Al Ahli's star, Mohammad Al Shammil, and three pointers from Thamer Al Abumari expanded the difference to 19-10 in the 12th minute.

Al Orthodoxi managed to catch-up at 21-19, nevertheless Al Ahli finished the first half at the low score of 25-19.

As Al Ahli led 30-22 in the second half their man-to-man defence effectively limited Al Orthodoxi's scoring but they gained many personal fouls.

Both teams lost many scoring chances but Al Orthodoxi didn't seem to mind provided the 24 point difference was not reached.

Al Ahli took command of the game as they pulled away ahead of Al Orthodoxi at 51-36 in the 17th minute. Led by Mohammad Al Shammil, Al Ahli continued to lead and won the match 59-43, reminding everyone that Al Ahli is not to be underestimated.

"We tried to play our best, and won with a good score, but last week's loss (87-63 against Al Orthodoxi) made it difficult to retain the title," Al Ahli's coach Rizeq Al Masri told the Jordan Times.

Although Al Orthodoxi won the title their coach was not so happy about their performance. "Our players were confident of winning the title, I think that's why they did not play well and lost the match," Hilal Barakat told the Jordan Times.

In the other match Al Watani scored their first win and upset over-confident Al Jazireh 59-58.

Al Jazireh led from the beginning of the match but Al Watani reduced the difference to 23-17 in the 14th minute.

Al Jazireh's Ghazi Enabi and Arif Al Khalaf again expanded the difference to 30-17 in the 17th minute and won the first half 35-25.

In the second half Al Jazireh's playmaker Munzer Al Mubasher's brilliant passes to Yousef Abu Baker and his teammates further increased the difference to 41-25 in the fourth minute and everyone thought Al Jazireh would keep the lead.

Al Watani's Faris Dababreh and Maher Zahid however had other plans. Playing man-to-man defence to limit Al Jazireh's scoring Al Watani were able to catch-up while Al Jazireh seemed unable to stop Al Watani from scoring after a series of turnovers and fast-breaks as the scoreboard showed a 49-48 lead for Al Watani in the 14th minute.

From there on the two rivals alternately scored and Al Jazireh led 58-57 with 30 seconds to go but missed scoring and Al Watani's Hani Al Taher scored to win the game 59-58.

In a statement to the Jordan Times Al Watani's head coach Ghazi Al Najjar said: "My team learned and benefitted a lot from this competition. Today we played good defence and kept our best for the second half."

Commenting on his team's win in the last day of competition he said: "Al Jazireh beat them all, — we beat Al Jazireh."

Al Orthodoxi club's under-19 basketball team

# Connors trying to prove comeback was not a fluke

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmy Connors made the 1991 U.S. Open memorable. Now, he says, it's time to forget it.

"I can't worry about the open," he said Thursday. "That was weeks ago and is in the past as far as tennis goes. That you are still writing and talking about it is great."

Connors' magical ride to the semifinals at the age of 39 reinforced his always positive mindset. Rather than let the open performance stand as his last major contribution to the sport and its fans, he is planning to build on it.

"I've got a full schedule next year," Connors said at the unveiling of his Nippon television commercial with Joe Montana.

"I'm going to Lyon, Stockholm, Paris and London through November, then if I can play 16-17-18 tournaments and all the Grand Slams next year, it would be great."

More than a decade ago, Connors stamped himself as one of the all-time greats of tennis. Yet, here he is, still crazy about the game after all these years.

"Why can Nolan Ryan still throw the ball past a batter?" Connors asked. "Why can George Foreman get into the ring and go the distance with the heavyweight champion of the world who is, what, 15 years younger? Maybe there's a little more there than meets the eye."

"No, 1, there is a love of the sport. And there is the enjoyment of competition. And, No. 3, maybe the heart is a little bigger than most people."

"I can't defend anymore that I am 39 or going to be 40. The only way is to go out and play the tennis I am capable of. If I do it, maybe you will stop harping on it and I can stop defending it."

Right now, he doesn't have to defend himself from much — except the occasional bad deals.

The proposed winner-take-all match with top-ranked woman Monica Seles apparently fell in that category for Connors, who has become one of the hottest properties in sports.

NBC uses him for its tennis coverage, most notably at Wimbledon. Advertisers are lining up to get him. Promoters are anxious to attract him to their tournaments.

But playing Seles in a game tailored to even things by allowing him only one serve and letting her hit into the doubles alleys? "I can't even give my son the alleys," he said of 12-year-old Brett. "Would it be fun to play her? Probably ... in six or seven years from now."

Ahead for Connors, along with a busy October that includes four European tournaments, and the 1992 schedule, is another appearance in team tennis.

And perhaps ownership of a franchise in team tennis.

"I'm thinking about it," said Connors, who played for the Los Angeles franchise last season. "I enjoy the crowds and the tennis and the concept."

"It's not a No. 1 priority, not in the front of my mind. It would have to be in a place of my choosing that doesn't get much live tennis and would come out and support it."

Support it the way the fans did at the open, where Connors staged such energetic comebacks against players who were in diapers — or perhaps not born — when he first reached the top in 1974.

"I think more people identify with me," he said. "They see me out there playing five hours and know it's not easy."

"At the open, the crowds would be shouting to me, 'nupie it, Jimmy. It was an unbelievable feeling to have them throwing that back at me. I never had that before.'"

You never were a corporate symbol before, Jimmy.

### Peanuts

I HATE ELEVATOR MUSIC AND TELEPHONE MUSIC, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I HATE THE MOST?

THUMB AND BLANKET MUSIC!

### Andy Capp

HOW'S THE DIET GOING, FLOP?

OH, DON'T DEPRESS ME, BELLA!

I'M HOPING I'VE GAINED EIGHT POUNDS IN TWO WEEKS!

FUNNY, THAT A WOMAN CAN WORRY HERSELF SKINNY ABOUT ANYTHING — BEST GAINING WEIGHT!

### Mutt'n'Jeff

YES, YES, YES, OF COURSE, YES, YES, YES!

YES, YES, YOU BETCHAS! SURE! POSITIVELY!

WHAT'S ALL THIS YES, YES, BUSINESS?

ACCORDING TO MY HOROSCOPE SOME DAME IS GONNA PROPOSE MARRIAGE TO ME AND I WANT TO BE READY WITH AN ANSWER!

NO, NO, NO, ABSOLUTELY NO!

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1991  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Listen carefully to what others have to say today and then make a point to try to do what they desire and expect of you. You could be getting a lot closer to a perfect understanding of change.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Your own judgment is good if you will rely upon a friend who is willing to go along with your ideas rather than depending upon any official.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You find an executive or a bigwig will use his good offices to help you out now but you have to go to him and let him know what you have in mind.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Get off to some fine place where you can be with a good friend who is willing to go along with a new idea that put you in a position for advancement.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You are now not able to discuss with one of vast experience who has a tendency to be somewhat gloomy what he will do to back your present efforts.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) There are a number of close associates who are willing to listen with you to some advanced point of view that none of you had considered before.

**VENUS:** (August 22 to September 22) Whatever you would like to do that means having a happy time is all right so long as you get your congenial companions of long standing to go along with you.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Let those about you see and be more aware of your interest in planning some happy times for those who also dwell beneath the same roof as yourself.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Early plan your attack on ways to have more revenue by getting set to go, then in the evening you are able to do so with ease and success.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) After you have had the discussions with businessmen, bankers, etc. you are able to see clearly what you need to do in order to have more abundance.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Now you can do pretty much what you wish for you have the power of the planets with you to show you the various means by which to improve your social contacts.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) There are some highly articulate persons who will confidentially give you the answers for which you have been searching and show you success.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Now you can do in conjunction with good friends in your best means of operation now so contact and let them know just what you have in mind.

Today's chart: If your child were born today he or she would be powerful to the various means by which to improve their close associates both personal and business. Learning self-control and learning to think things over before making any kind of comment for which they will later be sorry is a vital must for this chart.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

### THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

"I'd like a new recliner. His chair should be replaced, too."

### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Harri Arnold and Rob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DIPEW  
HANEH  
TALUCA  
BAGLEM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: A "COCOA-BOO-COCO"

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: NOISY CABIN SADIST HEARSE  
Answer: For a mother — THE SON ALWAYS SHINES

### THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Hopewell

ACROSS  
1 Assay  
5 Chief  
9 Apple juice  
14 Eros  
15 Acopoe  
16 Plant disease  
17 Antifoxus  
18 Ridge of rocks  
19 Equip again  
20 Of a certain area  
22 Lennon e.g.  
23 Satellite  
24 Preliminary contest  
25 Religious  
26 Jurisdiction  
27 Blend  
28 Deserts one's party  
33 Framework  
34 Depressed  
35 Sealing  
36 Cornput  
37 Valley  
38 Large cash  
39 Walked back and forth  
40 Ulan —  
41 Approved  
42 Toolbox item  
44 After: pref.  
45 Long time  
46 Slum  
49 Pick  
53 Relative value  
54 Gag  
55 Hercules' captive  
56 Il. city  
57 Actress  
58 Somber  
59 Lab burner  
60 Shred tears  
61 List of candidates  
62 Picture/sequence detail  
DOWN  
1 Soviet news org.  
2 Big bird: var.  
3 Old world tree  
4 Emotions  
5 Lab bottle  
6 Indian e.g.  
7 Foretold  
8 Indian hemp  
9 Bran and oats  
10 Conceal  
11 Skillful  
12 Author Ludwig  
13 Have status  
21 Bird of legend  
22 Brute  
24 Pursue relentlessly  
25 Moderate  
26 Party officer  
27 Mixture  
28 Shed tears  
29 List of candidates  
30 Picture/sequence detail  
31 Spouted pitchers  
33 Musical direction  
36 Il. poet  
37 More tedious  
38 Subatomic particles  
40 Faction  
42 Choice  
43 Eye  
45 Similar  
46 Nickname  
47 Nimbus  
48 Ms. Kerr  
49 Whimper  
50 Memory  
51 Arm bone  
52 Honey beverage  
54 Proof letters

Jeff in 12/4



## Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	High York Close	Tel Aviv Close
Sterling Pound	1.7200	1.7207
Deutsche Mark	1.6900	1.7000
Swiss Franc	1.4780	1.4790
French Franc	5.7545	5.7600
Japanese Yen	129.85	129.50
European Currency Unit	1.2120	1.2117

European Currency Unit

Currency	1 MYR	3 MYR	6 MYR	12 MYR
U.S. Dollar	5.18	5.31	5.31	5.50
Sterling Pound	10.43	10.78	10.12	10.12
Deutsche Mark	9.06	9.31	9.25	9.31
Swiss Franc	8.06	8.12	8.06	7.93
French Franc	9.12	9.25	9.31	9.37
Japanese Yen	6.78	6.43	6.25	6.00
European Currency Unit	9.81	9.85	9.87	9.87

Gold

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	359.95	7.00	Silver	4.13	.095

## Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.686	.688
Sterling Pound	1.1764	1.1823
Deutsche Mark	.4050	.4070
Swiss Franc	.4630	.4653
French Franc	.1190	.1196
Japanese Yen	.5290	.5316
Dutch Guilder	.3296	.3314
Swedish Krona	.1112	.1118
Italian Lira	.0542	.0545
Belgian Franc	.01962	.01972

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Baharal Dinar	1.7920	1.8000
Lebanese Lira	.0770	.0776
Saudi Riyal	.1826	.1832
Kuwaiti Dinar	.1861	.1866
Qatari Riyal	.2090	.2190
Egyptian Pound	1.7580	1.7780
Omani Riyal	.1861	.1866
UAE Dirham	.3600	.3675
Greek Drachma	1.4570	1.4700

CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	8/10/1991 Close	9/10/1991 Close
All-Share	122.35	122.01
Banking Sector	103.12	103.10
Insurance Sector	125.44	125.10
Industry Sector	151.56	150.41
Services Sector	129.88	130.10

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

**LONDON (R)** — Following are the buying and selling rates for trading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midseason in the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday

One Sterling	1.7155/65	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1285/90	Canadian dollar
	1.6930/35	Deutsche mark
	1.9030/60	Dutch guilders
	1.4815/20	Swiss francs
	34.83/87	Belgian francs
	5.7690/7700	French francs
	1266/1267	Italian lire
	129.85/85	Japanese yen
	6.1700/50	Swedish crowns
	6.6275/6325	Norwegian crowns
	6.5275/5325	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	357.15/65	U.S. dollars

## Latin American seeks banking arm in Jordan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter  
AMMAN — There is a lot of untapped Arab financial and industrial potential in Latin America that if properly handled could be of good mutual use to Arab and Latin American countries, according to a visiting Dominican businessman of Arab descent.

Nemen Nader Al Bitar, founder of the Tunis-based Arab American Bank (AAB), has already presented offers to the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) to purchase 100 per cent ownership of the troubled Jordan-Gulf Bank and 50 per cent of the London-based Jordan International Bank. He also has initiated contacts to purchase the Petra Banking Corporation, Washington, D.C., an affiliate of the bankrupt Petra Bank of Jordan.

In addition, Mr. Nader says, he is also seeking to purchase the closed down operations of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) in several countries. All new acquisitions will operate under the name Arab American Bank, which already has branches in several Latin American countries and is registered in the United States.

No official comment was available to Mr. Nader's discussions in Jordan.

Mr. Nader, 49, who says he is working with \$500 million of capital, points out that there is a large presence of people of Arab descent in Latin America who would be glad to channel their financial resources into investments in Arab countries, but have so far been lacking the proper mechanism for the right interaction to tap the available funds.

Seven million people of Arab descent are shareholders in his venture, according to Mr. Nader, a Dominican Republic national.

"I represent the poor people of Latin America," he told the Jordan Times. "Their shares start with as little as \$10. Most of them are from the middle class and below middle class and we guarantee their investments."

Mr. Nader, whose parents are of Lebanese and Syrian origins, has also taken an active part in Latin American politics and was a candidate in the 1990 presidential elections in the Dominican Republic.

A personal resume of Mr. Nader cites dozens of banking corporations, media networks, restaurants, advertising companies and other commercial organizations in the U.S. as well as Latin America as ven-

tures that he either has controlling interests or major stakes in ownership.

In addition, he also serves a multitude of U.S. and Latin American consultative panels and advisory committees, according to the resume, which gives a long list of banks in Latin America and international giants such as Toshiba and IBM, as references for the AAB.

"I am ready to open a bank in Iraq under the new banking laws" there which have cleared the way for establishing private sector banks in the country after decades of government-controlled banking, Mr. Nader said. He added that he was leaving for Lebanon soon to discuss the possible acquisition of "certain banking institutions there."

Mr. Nader is offering to inject \$25 million into the Jordan Gulf Bank and resume its operations under the new name in accordance with an agreement with the CBJ. The proposed agreement includes an undertaking by the AAB to repay in five years the estimated \$30 million pumped in by the CBJ to keep the Jordan Gulf Bank afloat after its takeover by the Economic Security Committee (ESC) in July 1989.

"The funds that we provide will be the capital of the bank," said Mr. Nader. "We will assume control of the bank along with all its liabilities and assets and resume its operations under the new name and seek to restore client confidence in the institution."

"We are offering to repay the amount that the CBJ has pumped into the Jordan Gulf Bank in five years' time," he said.

A formal offer has already been submitted to the CBJ after discussions over the past three weeks, he said.

The CBJ is studying the offer and a decision is expected soon, Mr. Nader said, explaining that the acquisition of the Jordan Gulf Bank along with its commercial license was the option left for the AAB in the face of the CBJ policy of not issuing any new commercial banking licenses.

The new equity will have 45 per cent AAB equity while 35 per cent will be owned by "various Jordanian corporations" and 20 per cent available to the public.

"One of our prime considerations is also the fate of the 500 or so employees of the Jordan Gulf Bank," Mr. Nader said. "The Arab American Bank will ensure that none of them is deprived of employment."

Another potential acquisition that the AAB is interested in is the Petra Banking Corporation based in Washington, D.C., which was owned by Petra Bank Jordan and members of the family of former Petra Bank Chairman Ahmad Chalabi. Banking circles said an acquisition deal will avert a possible liquidation of the corporation.

## Castro urges Cubans to produce more with less help from outside

HAVANA (R) — President Fidel Castro, painting a bleak picture of Cuba's economic prospects, warned his people Thursday not to expect handouts from anyone and urged them to produce more with less outside help.

"Nobody is going to make us any gifts," the veteran Cuban leader bluntly told a congress of the ruling Communist Party in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba.

President Castro made it clear to the 1,800 delegates that the days when Cuba could expect preferential trade and aid from the Soviet Union, its main ally and supplier, were now over.

He listed serious recent disruptions to vital Soviet supplies of oil, machinery, spare parts, chemicals, grains and food as a result of the political turmoil in the Soviet Union and the collapse of communism there.

"One of our weakest points is in fuel," President Castro said, noting that supplies contracted from the Soviet Union had been reduced to 10 million tonnes in 1991 from 13 million before.

There was no guarantee that the Soviet Union would be able to export oil next year nor any indication of what prices Cuba might have to pay, he said.

The real miracle which is now required of us, and which we have no alternative but to carry out, is to produce more milk, meat, rice and vegetables with minimal quantities of animal feed, fertilizers and herbicides," he pointed out.

He offered no immediate short-term solutions to the widespread shortages of food and consumer goods affecting Cuba's nearly 11 million people.

President Castro said the island would continue to concentrate on its mainstay export, sugar, while developing tourism and seeking cooperation with foreign investors.

Foreign investment in Cuba, he added, "did not contradict any principle of socialism, Marxism-Leninism or the revolution."

The island could offer unused industrial capacity and a skilled workforce to investors in exchange for raw materials. "We are receiving abundant offers to cooperate," President Castro said.

He said preference was being given to Latin American entrepreneurs in keeping with moves towards integrating the region's economies.

President Castro deflected criticism of the two-tier tourism system, which reserves the best hotels, shops and restaurants for dollar-paying foreign visitors while excluding Cubans.

"What the revolution is doing in tourism is to resolve the problems of the people," he said. "It's very important that people understand the need for tourism, even though it implies sacrifices from us."

The Cuban leader lamented the change in terms of trade with the Soviet Union, which is adapting its economic relations with the Caribbean island to world market conditions.

Whereas previously, under the preferential terms of trade, a tonne of Cuban sugar purchased five or six tonnes of oil, President Castro said Cuba would now have to use all of its annual sugar harvest to buy 10 million tonnes of oil at world market prices.

In addition, it would still need to buy food, essential raw materials and other supplies.

Apart from trade, the increasing difficulties in Havana's ties with Moscow had also affected important bilateral development projects such as nickel factories, thermoelectric plants, the machinery industry, an oil refinery and a nuclear energy plant, all being developed with Soviet aid.

"This presents a colossal challenge to our country," he said. But, he added, Cuba would always be grateful for the help it received from the Soviet Union over the last 30 years.



Fidel Castro

## China's tourism reported recovering

BEIJING (R) — China's tourism industry, badly hurt after the army crushed pro-democracy protests in 1989, is recovering this year, the official People's Daily has said.

In the first half of 1991, China received 16.3 million overseas visitors and earned \$1.3 billion, up 21.6 per cent and 33.7 per cent respectively over the same period in 1988, the second year for the tourist industry, it said.

The newspaper did not provide comparisons with 1990.

While tourist arrivals have increased, industry analysts said vast numbers of the visitors are ethnic Chinese from the British colony of Hong Kong and from Taiwan visiting relatives.

Also included in the statistics are business people arriving on tourist visas.

Industry analysts said tourists from western Europe and the United States are still not coming to China in the numbers they did before the 1989 crackdown.

Official Chinese statistics show that tourism in 1990, when Beijing hosted the Asian Games, nearly regained 1988 levels. Those statistics are disputed by many foreign businessmen in the industry.

Diplomats estimated that China lost \$1 billion in tourist revenue in 1989 following the bloody crackdown on dissent. China earned \$1.89 billion through tourism that year.

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## Yugoslav army says no Croatia pullout, peace deal in doubt

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (R) — The Yugoslav army denied Friday signing an agreement to withdraw from Croatia, throwing into doubt a deal worked out just hours earlier to end fighting in the rebel republic.

Croatian forces lifted a barricade of trucks, anti-tank mines and steel girders from the Borongaj federal army barracks in the Croatian capital Zagreb, removing a key obstacle to a shaky ceasefire agreement after 16 weeks of fighting.

The Serb-led federal army also started lifting blockades of Croatian ports under the deal. Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek said Thursday Serbian, Croatian and military leaders had agreed in the Hague to negotiate the withdrawal of the army from Croatia.

But the federal Defence Ministry crushed optimism with a curt statement released by Tanjug News Agency.

"Yesterday in the Hague no agreement was signed and therefore no agreement was signed on the withdrawal of the Yugoslav People's Army from the territory of Croatia," it said.

The statement threw into doubt the whole agreement reached with European Community (EC) peace brokers in the

Hague, under which the warring rivals agreed to try to find political solutions to Yugoslavia's crisis within a month.

It dimmed hopes of ending fighting that has killed more than 1,000 people since June, when Croatia declared its independence of the crumbling Yugoslav Federation and the republic's Serbian minority rebelled.

Hopes were also dimmed by renewed shelling overnight in Vukovar and Osijek in northeastern Croatia.

A relief convoy of 50 vehicles, carrying food and medicine to Vukovar under the ceasefire agreement, came under fire near the city but EC officials in Zagreb said it would press on.

The warring sides have failed in all previous attempts to solve their political disputes, which have their roots in many years of bloody rivalry between the Serbs and Croats, and seven other ceasefires have not halted the fighting.

The conflict has shattered federal power in Yugoslavia, a country of 23.5 million people, and increased fears of all-out civil war.

The question of an army withdrawal from Croatia has emerged as a key obstacle to a lasting peace in talks with the EC in the

Hague and in daily negotiations between the army and Croatian officials in Zagreb.

Croatia insists that troops leaving blockaded bases must head across the Serbian border towards Belgrade, so that they cannot regroup in any location from which they could launch fresh attacks against the republics.

The army has said its troops must remain in Croatia to protect the republic's Serbian minority.

Western diplomats said they believed the agreement in the Hague, like previous deals which later collapsed, had not been formally signed.

"If what was discussed today is translated into reality, there is a good chance of settling the Yugoslav crisis by political means," Yugoslav Defence Minister General Veljko Kadijevic said after the meeting in the Hague.

But highlighting the problems over the accord, he added: "I say 'if' because our experiences are bitter. The responsibility is on all parties to make sure that the 'if' is removed."

In a more positive development, a mobile yellow crane began dragging away five heavy trucks which had been filled with rubble and left with tyres deflated to block the road outside the Borongaj in Zagreb.

The breakthrough, ending nearly a month of siege for the troops inside, was sealed on the spot with handshakes after barracks commander Colonel Ratko Grabovac drove his jeep up to the rocket-blasted main gate.

The two sides saluted and Croatian National Guard adjutant Ivan Nad showed Col. Grabovac a sample of the pass Yugoslav officers would receive to leave and move freely in Zagreb.

Yugoslav media said the federal armed forces started lifting blockades of Adriatic ports, including the resort of Dubrovnik which has been without water or electricity for more than a week. Croatian Radio said the coastal road to the ancient Adriatic city was opening up again to regular traffic and life was slowly returning to normal.

In a sign of growing international concern, former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was due in Yugoslavia at the weekend to assess the situation for U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

And Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev invited Croatian President Franjo Tudjman and his Serbian counterpart and rival Slobodan Milosevic to discuss their differences in Moscow next week.

## Tokyo woos Moscow with money, hopes for progress on islands

TOKYO (R) — Japan, after dangling \$2.5 billion in aid before a needy Soviet Union, seeks substantial progress on a long-running territorial dispute when its foreign minister holds talks in Moscow next week.

Yet political uncertainty at home as well as in the Soviet Union could undermine the dialogue, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama arrives in Moscow Saturday and begins two days of talks Monday with both Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin and A.V. Kozirev, foreign minister of the Russian Republic.

The republic directly administers four Pacific islands seized from Japan by Soviet troops at the end of World War II. Mr. Nakayama is also due to meet Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin, Russian Federation president, during the six-day visit.

"Foreign Minister Nakayama's visit was intended to make some kind of breakthrough on the islands' dispute and to pave the way for the prime minister to visit Moscow," said a ministry official working on the visit.

"Now it's almost certain that

the foreign minister will be out of his job by the end of the month so he's not going with much clout."

Japan had long refused to consider large-scale economic aid for the Soviet Union or sign a treaty formally ending World War II hostilities until Moscow agreed to return all four islands that lie just off Japan's northernmost island Hokkaido.

Under Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Nakayama, the government has eased its policy towards the Soviet Union. After earlier offering \$100 million in food aid for Moscow, Japan Tuesday unveiled its largest aid package ever for the Soviet Union worth \$2.5 billion.

Mr. Kaifu, however, last week gave up plans to turn for reelection as ruling party leader, which carries with it the post of premier. A new party leader and cabinet are to take over control of government on Oct. 31.

Another cloud hanging over Mr. Nakayama's Soviet visit is uncertainty over who now calls the shots in Moscow.

While Mr. Yeltsin's Russian Federation has called for speeding up talks to settle the territorial dispute, the central government has said it sees no apparent

solution. Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vitaly Churkin, in welcoming Japan's huge aid package, Tuesday, said Moscow and Tokyo both had legitimate claims to the islands.

"The documentary evidence is contradictory," he told reporters after a news briefing. "The Japanese seem to have a solid claim but we feel we have a solid claim too."

Tokyo says it first settled the islands while Moscow says the wartime Yalta Agreement gives it control over all the Kurile Islands in the North Pacific. Japan maintains the four insignificant outcrops are not part of the Kurile Chain.

Just days before Mr. Nakayama's departure, Tokyo's unveiling of the aid package appeared to be aimed at facilitating some progress in the Moscow talks.

The package consists of \$1.5 billion in trade insurance, \$200 million in export credits and \$500 million in emergency food and medical aid.

Vice Foreign Minister Hiashi Owada held out the possibility of even more aid once the Soviet Union came up with a blueprint for economic reform.

## COLUMN

### Police search for AIDS-infected woman

DALLAS (R) — Dallas police said they had narrowed to three suspects their search for a woman who has said she is trying to infect black men with the deadly AIDS virus. Prosecutor George West said three women known to frequent singles bars were considered likely suspects, but he declined to say how the list had been compiled. Newspapers ran a black-and-white reproduction of a police sketch showing a woman aged about 35 with shoulder-length hair. The search began four months ago when a woman calling herself "C.J." stunned a radio talk show host by saying she had AIDS and was determined to get revenge by transmitting the disease to black men she picked up in bars. The woman also wrote a letter published in Ebony, a major U.S. black magazine, vowing revenge for having caught the disease during a one-night stand. Mr. West said all the suspects were black women, including one who was known to be infected with acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), which kills by destroying the body's immune system. The virus is normally passed by sexual contact or the sharing of hypodermic needles.

### Group tells children: 'Dress smart and live'

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A new campaign aims to send a crucial message to U.S. school children: "Dress smart and live, dress cool and you could die." Organisers have announced the motto as part of an effort to reduce the number of robberies, smugglings and even murders over coveted types of clothing, especially professional sports jackets and certain athletic shoes. "They need to learn — before it's too late — that looking cool is not worth risking your life," said Reima Walker, founder and chairwoman of Parents and Youth Concerned About Fashion and Violence. "And, the parents need to know that it's not worth sacrificing rent money to buy something that could endanger their child's life." The motto is to be emblazoned in 55,000 brochures being prepared for distribution to children in public and private schools. The pamphlets will tell students about the dangers of wearing the kind of clothing that can make them targets for robberies and murder.

### Prehistoric canoes, house found at Paris building site

PARIS (R) — French archaeologists found three canoes and the remains of a home built 6,500 years ago in central Paris, proving for the first time that the banks of the Seine River were settled thousands of years before Jesus Christ. Archaeologist Michel Fleury said the Neolithic era artefacts were discovered on a building site of a new warehouse complex near the Finance Ministry of the Quai de Bercy. "Until now, no artefacts from this era had been found in Paris. The prehistory of the capital had always been deduced from findings elsewhere," he told reporters. "The oldest layer produced engraved bottles, jugs, polished flint hatchets, paring knives and the remains of bison, beavers, deer and turtles." Mr. Fleury said. The canoes, five metre-long (16-foot) hollowed tree trunks, were found embedded in the earth less than 12 metres (40 feet) below street level. They will be sent to Denmark for preservation and then put on display at the site, the Paris city authorities said.

### Sheriff: Woman rips sister's tongue out

CHESTER (AP) — A woman ripped out her sister's tongue, piece by piece with her fingernails while the two were in jail, a sheriff said. Donna Doxie, 24, told police she was removing a demon from her sister, Melody Shelton, 28, said sheriff Bobby Orr. "They all indicated they were involved in some sort of witchcraft," Orr said. He said Shelton apparently offered no resistance and never called for help. The two women were taken to a hospital for a psychiatric evaluation, the sheriff said. No immediate charges were filed. Doxie, Shelton and two other sisters were being held on disorderly conduct and assault charges at the time, Orr said.

## Seoul warns North can make atomic bomb by '95

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea stepped up its warnings about North Korea's nuclear programme Friday, saying the hardline Communist state will be able to build atomic bombs within four years.

The announcement by Foreign Minister Lee Sang-Ok was the most specific estimate of North Korea's nuclear progress offered so far in Seoul's escalating campaign to convince the North to abandon its nuclear arms programme.

The United States and the South have been pressuring the secretive North to give up trying to build an atomic bomb. The South warned this year that it might launch a commando raid if the North didn't open its nuclear facilities for international inspection.

The North has refused to allow inspections while U.S. nuclear weapons are stationed in the South. The United States maintains 43,000 troops in South Korea, but refuses to say whether it also has nuclear weapons there.

"We have fresh observations that North Korea will be able to produce nuclear weapons before 1995," Mr. Lee said at a meeting of South Korean newspaper

editors. North Korea and South are technically at war, never having signed a peace treaty to end the 1950-53 Korean War, and some 1.5 million troops guard either side of their heavily militarised border.

Mr. Lee recommended sincere talks with North Korea in an attempt to establish peace on the Korean peninsula, which was divided in 1945 at the end of World War II.

"The government will actively seek diplomatic cooperation from the countries concerned" to halt the North's nuclear arms development, Mr. Lee said.

Mr. Lee said U.S. commitments to South Korea's security and the nuclear umbrella covering the Far East remained unchanged despite President Bush's decision to eliminate much of the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

In parliament, lawmakers have demanded that Seoul take a diplomatic initiative to expedite inter-Korean dialogue. Opposition lawmaker Kim Duk-Kyu called for a military conference between the two Koreas and the United States to discuss nuclear issues.

## 'Stronger laws needed in Asia to curb disasters'

MANILA (R) — Man-made disasters in Asia are on the increase, rivaling the damage inflicted by natural disasters in terms of lives lost and property destroyed, a regional conference said Friday.

"Devastating typhoons, floods, droughts, tidal waves, earthquakes volcanic eruptions and other calamities occur frequently in the region," said a resolution at the end of the five-day conference on social problems in Asia.

Asia suffered more frequent and severe natural disasters than any other part of the world, it said. Delegates at the meeting, organised by the 49-member Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), called for tougher laws and enforcement to reduce environmental pollution, trafficking in toxic chemicals and dumping of hazardous wastes.

The resolution said little had been done to prepare for disasters and reduce their impact. It called for the creation of a regional coordination body to deal with disaster preparedness.

The conference said man-made disasters were having just as big an impact in Asia as the annual string of natural disasters.

"Man-made disasters resulting from such situations as dangerous industrial working conditions, poor transport safety standards, inadequate construction methods, environmental pollution, and the use of trafficking in toxic chemicals and dumping of hazardous wastes are increasing throughout the region," the declaration said.

"In terms of the enormous annual cost to the region in terms of lives lost, people left disabled and dislocated, and property destroyed, man-made disasters in the region rival the damage inflicted by natural disasters," it said.

"Laws and regulations aimed at reducing such dangerous situations, and the enforcement of such laws and regulations, are inadequate, as are the means of coping with such disasters when they occur."

The resolution gave no figures for the annual cost of the disasters, nor the number of people killed or injured.

It said business was "the most

flagrant despoiler of the environment." Companies in Asia had "promoted the commercialisation of agriculture at the expense of the land, and zealously expanded industrial production and introduced new technologies irrespective of the environmental pollution generated," the declaration said.

Environmental deterioration had been an increasingly important factor in causing natural disasters, while the social impact was greater because of the growing Asian population, the conference said.

The conference also said men must take the lead in Asia in preventing the spread of AIDS by limiting sexual partners and using condoms, while Asian countries should curb "sex tours" from abroad.

Warning that AIDS was spreading in Asia at an alarming rate and could become an "explosive epidemic" by the mid-1990s, the conference said it was up to men to take the initiative in helping to limit the killer disease.

The conference said in the final resolution that men in Asia were the dominant partners in most relationships.

"Prevention of AIDS requires behavioural changes, which will have to be achieved by those who have the preponderance of power in heterosexual relationships, men," the statement said.

## Sikhs set terms for releasing Romanian diplomat

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh militants who say they kidnapped Romanian diplomat Liviu Radu in New Delhi have demanded the release of two Sikh gunmen held in Bucharest in exchange for him, a senior police official said Friday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said a man purporting to represent Liberation Tigers of Khalistan (LTAK) called the Romanian embassy Thursday night to present their terms for releasing Mr. Radu.

He said the caller demanded the release of two Sikhs captured in Bucharest after an August assassination attempt on Indian Ambassador Julio Francis Ribeiro.

Mr. Ribeiro, a former police chief in the northern state of Punjab where Sikh militants are fighting for an independent homeland, is high on the militant hit list for his tough action against the decade-old insurgency, Punjab police say.

He was shot and wounded as he walked with his wife in a Bucharest suburb. Bodyguards killed one of the Sikh attackers, two were captured and a fourth escaped.

Mr. Radu, Romania's acting ambassador until a new envoy, now in Delhi, presents his credentials, was seized as he drove to work Wednesday morning.

One of his captors was a Sikh. Several hours later a man identifying himself as LTAK chief Kalwant Singh Gundi claimed responsibility for the kidnapping in a telephone call to an Indian reporter in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar.



Kiichi Miyazawa

## Miyazawa to replace Kaifu as premier

TOKYO (R) — Kiichi Miyazawa looked set to become Japan's next prime minister after a leader of the ruling party's largest faction announced Friday it would back him in an Oct. 27 leadership ballot.

Endorsement of Mr. Miyazawa by the 106-member faction led by powerful ex-Premier Noboru Takeshita was announced by Shin Kanemaru, "kingmaker" of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) which has ruled Japan since 1955. The decision makes Mr. Miyazawa, the 72-year-old former finance minister, firm favourite to win the presidency of the LDP in place of outgoing Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Given the LDP's parliamentary majority, the LDP leader automatically takes over as premier. Addressing the caucus in the presence of reporters, Mr. Kanemaru said the leadership's decision was to support Mr. Miyazawa "on the basis of the policies among the various candidates." The caucus unanimously approved the decision.

## Turkey sees opportunities in break-up of Soviet Union

By Alastair Lyon  
Reuters

ANKARA — Turkey, throwing off shackles of the cold war, is exploring ways of forging ties with emerging Soviet republics that are home to up to 50 million Muslim, Turkic-origin people.

President Turgut Ozal believes the Soviet Union, which borders Turkey, will be unable to maintain political cohesion and at best may have to settle for a form of economic union with its restless republics.

Pointing to relatively high population growth rates in the five Muslim republics of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kirghizia and Uzbekistan, Mr. Ozal told reporters last weekend only economic prosperity could stave off an upsurge of Islamic fundamentalism or another kind of fanaticism there.

"The collapse of communism has created a new climate around us, which is probably a little dangerous," he said.

For decades, the twin planks

of Turkish foreign policy were guarding NATO's southern flank against the Soviet threat and moving towards joining the European Community (EC).

These days, helped by the experience of a decade of free market economics, it is adapting to a more complex world.

"We are applying a foreign policy of our own geography with more assertiveness now," Ozdemir Sanberk, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry, told Reuters in an interview.

This means promoting a good neighbourly image of stability and economic partnership in a fast-changing, unstable region.

Not easy when Turkey itself is struggling with high inflation, yawning budget deficits and Kurdish separatist guerrillas.

Turkey also has to grapple with disputes or tensions with several of its neighbours who recall centuries of Ottoman imperial rule and remain deeply suspicious of Ankara's intentions.

Syria and Iraq distrust Tur-

key's efforts to harness the Euphrates and Tigris rivers. Iran feels challenged by the Turkish model to a secular, democratic, but Muslim state.

The problems of Bulgaria's big ethnic Turkish minority have soured relations in the past. Greece is at odds with Turkey over Cyprus, territorial and airspace rights in the Aegean Sea and their treatment of Greek and Turkish minorities.

"We have no hegemonic ambitions. Turkey is not coveting Mosul," said Mr. Sanberk, referring to a former Ottoman province in northern Iraq. "Our best arguments are the facts."

Turkey, he said, was making gestures of solidarity to create a "peace belt" of economic partnership.

One such initiative is Turkey's involvement in an economic cooperation agreement with Muslim Iran and Pakistan.

Another is the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region with the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and Romania. "Conceived

before the Soviet changes and developed in the Gulf crisis." The text of the agreement might now be signed by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Moldova as well, Mr. Sanberk said.

Turkey signed a strategic trade agreement to buy Soviet natural gas in return for Turkish industrial goods back in 1985.

Two-way trade may hit \$2 billion this year and six times that by the year 2000. Turkey's Esimbank has extended credits worth a total of \$1.25 billion to Moscow.

As the Soviet republics spin away from central authority, Ankara is working on three levels — with Moscow, with the Turkish-speaking republics and with the Christian republics.

Last month it sent two diplomatic missions to explore new ties with Muslim and Christian republics, and President Mikhail Gorbachev sent his adviser Yevgeny Primakov to Ankara. A visit here by Kazakhstan

President Nursultan Nazarbayev produced a set of economic, trade and communications accords, including the start of flights between Istanbul and Alma Ata.

Mr. Sanberk said a land border would probably be opened with the Soviet Republic of Armenia next year, after a land link with the Azerbaijan enclave of Nakhichevan had opened.

Turkey's aim was not to pursue pan-Turkic dreams in Asia, but to offer its limited experience in industry, technology and free markets as a model for formerly Communist Muslim republics.

The language bond could make Turkish firms useful partners for European or U.S. companies starting joint ventures there.

"Events in the Soviet Union are a bonus for Turkey, which is now operating in the region," Mr. Sanberk said. "But this has not destroyed the U.S. and European pillars of our foreign policy."